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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 13TH MAY.

THE FOLLOWING will doubtless be read with interest by many of our readers. The father of one Meg Raj, a native of Multan, was settled in Astracan early in this century. He accumulated much property in land and money and endowed a temple in Astracan. He died a few years before the annexation of the Punjab, and a brother of his got somehow a *warrisnama* attested, it is said, at Multan by many of the most respectable inhabitants, and succeeded in obtaining possession of the property. After some years he parted with the property in Astracan and settled as a merchant in Moscow, and the story goes that because of his great wealth the Moscow Police murdered him in 1860. The matter was so well managed that for some years nobody knew what had become of him. An accomplice who was cognizant of the crime and the wealth of the deceased divulged the crime to the British Consul at St. Petersburgh, and gave information of the whereabouts of the property on a promise of his getting one hundred thousand roubles of the money recovered. After this disclosure and in consequence of the action taken by the British authorities at St. Petersburgh the Government of India was requested to trace the heir or heirs of Meg Raj. The man who had given the information of the murder and the property left by the deceased was now advised to set himself up as the heir, but by the persistent efforts of the lawyer of the British embassy he was defeated. It may be here noted that the attorney who had advised the informer to stand forward as the heir had been promised a reward of 1,000,000 roubles in the event of success and he held a bond to that effect. Mr. Roluck, the British lawyer, however, again stood in his way and proved to the Court that the informer was born of Russian parents in Siberia. The man was sent to jail where he hanged himself. But matters did not stop here. The attorney presented his claim to the bag of roubles on the plea that the Court had come to no decision as to the informer being the heir of Meg Raj. He failed but so did the real descendant of Meg Raj who came forward as the heir. The Russian Court before which the suit came on for trial was not satisfied that the claimants were the heirs of Meg Raj, and the evidence to establish the claimant's connection with Meg Raj was discredited because it was received by Col. Ferris, Deputy Commissioner of Multan, who was a military man and not a lawyer, and because the name Meg Raj was a common one in India. The evidence, however, was very fully and carefully recorded and in no English Court could it have been rejected. But the decision being that of the highest Court of Justice in Russia could have been set aside only by the Emperor, to whom it is proposed to refer the case.

THE STATESMAN quotes some old authorities to shew that the material condition of the masses in the Western Presidency has *not* improved under British rule. Mr. Mounstuart Elphinstone thus wrote in 1821:

"The Mahratta country presents in many respects a complete contrast to the picture of Bengal. * * * * * The people are few compared to the quantity of arable land; they are hardy warlike and always armed. Till of late years, *the situation of the lower orders was very comfortable and that of the upper prosperous.* There was abundance of employment in the domestic establishments and foreign conquests of the nation."

In a private letter, dated 1849, "written by a gentleman high in the Company's service," the decay of the people under British rule in the adjoining province of Guzerat, also taken from the Peishwa, is described as follows:

"Many of the best families in the province who were rich and well-to do when we came into Guzerat in 1807 *have now scarcely clothes on their backs.*"

Mr. Giberne after an absence of fourteen years from the same province on returning thereto in 1870 as Judge says:

"I did not see so many of the more wealthy classes of the natives. *When we first had the country*, the aristocracy used to have their gay cart horses and attendants and a great finery about them and there seemed now to be an absence of all that,

He gave this statement in evidence before the Select Committee of the Commons in 1848. As to the ryots he said:

"The ryots all complain, that they had money once but that they had none now."

Mr. Marriott, late of the Bombay Council, thus wrote in 1836:

"It is a startling but too notorious a fact that though loaded with a vastly greater absolute amount of taxation, and harassed by various severe acts of tyranny and oppression, yet the country was in a state of prosperity under the native rule, when compared with that into which it has fallen under the avowedly mild sway of British administration. Though, in stating the subject I have used the expression a 'vastly greater absolute amount of taxation,' yet I would beg to be understood as being fully aware those terms must be treated in a qualified sense since it is manifest that relatively viewed a smaller numerical amount of taxation may with reference to the means of payment be in point of fact more burdensome than a much larger, where the resources are more adequate to the object. But in the particular case in point it is I believe ability which has diminished: and that too to many grades below the proportionate fall in the pecuniary amount of fiscal demand. To the pecuniary injurious results are also to be added the many unfavourable circumstances inseparable for a time from a foreign rule. In elucidation of the position that the country is verging to the lowest state of pauperism I would adduce a fact pregnant with considerations of the most serious importance, namely that of late years a large portion of the public revenue has been paid by encroachment upon the capital of the country, small though that capital is in itself. I allude to the property of the peasantry, which consist of personal ornaments of the precious metals and jewels, convertible, as occasion require, to profitable purposes, and accommodations in agricultural pursuits most frequently in the shape of pawn till the object has been obtained. I feel certain that an examination would establish that a considerable share of this and other property even to cattle and household utensils has been for ever alienated from its proprietors to make good the public revenue. In addition to this lamentable evidence of poverty, is another of equal force to be seen in all parts of the country in the numerous individuals of the above class of the community wandering about for the employment of hirelings which they are glad to obtain, even for the most scanty pittance. In short almost everything forces the conviction that we have before us a harrowing progress to utter pauperism."

Our contemporary remarks, "the statement that our rule has reduced the people over wide provinces of India to pauperism, is so wounding to our *amour propre*, that many Englishmen are ready to resent it as a calumny, believing it impossible that it should be true." But in order to establish the fact he has given the foregoing extracts. The article which we quote above was published in the *Statesman* of the 6th instant, and on the 8th instant the same writer in defending the Vernacular Press Act says:

The alternative presented to the Government is this: either you have passed an unjustifiable law, or you have misgoverned the country. To justify this line of argument, it would be necessary to prove that the people of India were 'happy, prosperous, and contented' before they passed under British rule, and that the ills they have to bear are mainly due to the vices of our Government.

No matter how well the country may be governed, or how prosperous the people may be, it is only natural that so long as the Government is foreign, there should be more or less discontent, and it is inevitable that this discontent should find expression through a free Native Press. As a matter of fact, the key-note of all the objectionable writing in the Vernacular Press is a protest against foreign rule. The Government of India does not seek to prevent that Press from ventilating the real grievances of the people, and setting forth the actual sufferings that they endure. It would rather encourage them to do so. But it is evident that it cannot allow them to make a grievance of the fact that they are under foreign rule.

The *Statesman* is grossly inconsistent. By its own writings it teaches the people to believe that the British Government has reduced them to pauperism, and when they in their public journals ventilate this grievance, the writer tells them that it is not that they have any just grievance, but because they do not like a foreign rule. Nothing is more untrue than to say that the natives grumble simply because they are under a foreign yoke.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS of Upper India, including the N. W. P., Oudh, the Punjab, Rajputana, and the Central Provinces, numbers 97 papers, most of which are very poor, small and insignificant. Very few even claim a circulation of over 200. The *Oudh Akhbar* about the best, has only a circulation of 650. Four or five others have between 300 and 400. And yet these papers, with such limited circulation, are said to poison the minds of the masses!

THE CZAR has offered a prize for the best hymn celebrating the success of the Russians, and adapted for the army. Only Russian composers can compete.

A VERY interesting book has been published in England entitled the history, constitution and character of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Mr. Finlayson, the author, says:

"The King in Council never had any judicial power or jurisdiction, original or appellate, over causes arising within the realm. Under the Tudors, however, and especially in the long reign of Elizabeth, an arbitrary power was assumed by the Council, which gave rise to suits or petitions to the Council for redress, and thus a kind of abusive and usurped jurisdiction came to be exercised by the Council, only as incidental to its arbitrary assumption of power, and having no foundation in law. This abusive and usurped jurisdiction continued to be exercised by the Stuart sovereigns who succeeded and led, more than anything else, to the ruin of Charles I. It was eventually condemned by the Petition of Right, within three years of his accession to the throne; it was condemned still more explicitly in the Act of 1640, abolishing the Star Chamber and regulating the Council; and the usurped and abusive judicial authority—which, it is to be observed, was original and illegal—was the only judicial authority exercised by the Council, until, in the last century, appeals began to come from the colonies.

The Regulations of 1627, which conclude with the words, "When the business is carried by the majority of voices, no publication is to be made by any man how the particular voices and opinions went," were drawn up at a time when the Council had no judicial authority known to the law of England. Even "the Star Chamber, odious as it became, was at least in this respect like every other judicial tribunal that ever existed in this country; it was open and public in its sittings, and its members openly and publicly declared their opinions in the face of day, and they never condescended to shroud themselves in secrecy." So, too, the Court of Delegates, which was the appellate tribunal in ecclesiastic a causes, until its jurisdiction was transferred by 2 & 3 Will. IV., c. 92, to the King in Council, and thence by 3 & 4 Will. IV., c. 41, to the Judicial Committee, "acted in all respects as Judges in a regular Court; they pronounced their judgments, and expressed their opinions, whether they were unanimous or not, openly; and if they were divided in opinion, they all declared their opinions according to the universal practice in the Courts of this country."

Mr. Finlayson devotes a considerable portion of his book to shew that to all intents and purposes, the Judicial Committee is as much a Court [illegible] as the late lamented Court of Queen's Bench, or the present High Court of Justice.

A NEW philological quarterly has made its appearance in Holland. It is entitled *Noord en Zuid*, and is edited by T. H. de Beer of Amsterdam.

THE TRIAL of the first batch of Surat-rioters—six in number—before the Sessions Judge of that district, has come to an end. The ringleader has been sentenced to ten, and five others to seven years' transportation.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the riotous conduct of the inhabitants of the town of Surat, Government has thought it expedient to quarter policemen therein, in addition to the Police force of the district. The increase is as follows:—50 armed police, 50 unarmed police, 10 mounted police.

THE EDITORS of certain Vernacular papers of Surat are suspected of having had a hand in the late riots, and are under surveillance. So we have not yet seen the last scene of the Surat drama.

A FRIEND writes from Kurmatar that the hail-storm there on Thursday last was very destructive. Some of the stones were as large as a *bael* fruit and others as big as a palm fruit. Many cattle out on the fields were killed instantly, and some men were also injured.

TUESDAY, 14TH MAY.

THE ST. PETERSBURGH EXCHANGE gives the following estimate of the cost of the late War to Russia:

"Since April 12, 1877, the day of the declaration of war, 10 months and 22 days, or 332 days have passed. Considering that the mobilization of the army had begun five months previous to that date, the extraordinary expenditure entailed by the war has now lasted for sixteen months. The cost of the campaign has been enormous. In November 1876, we concluded three domestic loans for 350,000,000 paper roubles, and one foreign loan for 93,750,000 paper roubles, or 125,000,000 paper roubles. In addition to this, 285,000,000 roubles were advanced by the Imperial Bank, the aggregate sum of the cost amounting to at least 800,000,000 roubles. Reckoning the expense of the return march at 50,000,000 roubles, we have a grand total of 8 50,000,000 roubles, which will take 45,000,000 roubles a year in interest and sinking fund. Now, as the outlay occasioned by the Imperial debt is given at 108,000,000 roubles a year in the Budget for 1877, it follows that the war has raised our debt nearly one-half. Our burdens might be lightened if Turkey were to pay the indemnity of 300,000,000 roubles stipulated for in the Treaty of Peace; but it is difficult to say how far we may count upon this obligation being fulfilled.

Another paper says that this estimate is too low.

WE ARE glad to learn from the *Indian Tribune* that Pandit Adityaram Bhattacharjee, M. A., has been appointed to act as Professor of History and Philosophy in the Muir Central College, *vice* Mr.

W. H. Wright; and that Pandit Keswa Shastri to officiate as professor of Sanskrit, *vice* Pandit Adityaram Bhattacharjee.

THE ORISSA DIVISION of Public Works has been abolished with effect from the 30th April, 1878, and the buildings, roads, and other works comprised in it transferred to the Brahminee-Byturnee and Mahanuddy divisions of the Irrigation Branch of this department, under arrangements to be made by that branch.

A NEW instrument has been produced in America. According to the published description, its function is that, "placed upon a locomotive, it will raise its voice when desired, and announce, in giant tones that can be heard for miles, 'I am the engine Marmaduke, and will stop at Boonton station', or whatever other warning or information it chooses."

WE NOTE that the French have been making some very interesting experiments with the telephone. At a distance of nearly 2,200 yards, singing, recitation of poetry, and bugle calls could be clearly distinguished. At a distance of six miles, the same result was obtained; but when the experiment was tried at a distance of 21 miles, the sounds were indistinct. The conclusion at which the French have arrived is that the telephone can only be used for military purposes on a fortress to enable the governor to converse with the commandant of the detached forts.

WE ARE informed that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the increase to the Administrative and Police Staff of the Punjab, lately approved by the Government of India. The cost of the increase is put down at Rupees 2950 per mensem. Sir John Strachey in presenting his Famine Budget said that he was striving his best to put down civil expenditure.

WE UNDERSTAND that Mr. Michael Macmillan B.A., late Scholar of Brasenose College, Oxford, has been appointed by the Secretary of State to a Professorship in Elphinstone College, Bombay. Mr. Macmillan obtained a first class in classical Moderations and a second class in the final classical schools of the University of Oxford. He will take up his appointment next month.

MAJOR BATEMAN CHAMPAIN will be one of the representatives of India at the approaching International Telegraph Conference.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH MAY.

THE PROCEEDINGS of the Madras Government in the Stamp Department for the year 1875-76 were recorded at the close of 1877. The total stamp revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 50,22,942, being the highest yet recorded, and Rs. 55,377, in excess of the preceding year, and produced a net revenue of Rs. 47,98,227. There was an increase of Rs. 61,000 from the sale of non-judicial Stamps, and of Rs. 53,283 from Court Fee Stamps. The increase under the former head is attributed to evasions of the law being less frequent, and to improved knowledge among the people of its provisions. The charges of the Department show a decrease of Rs. 1,62,929, compared with the previous year, which was mainly due to the necessity for large supplies of stamps from England, having been obviated during the year by special arrangements made for transfer, to Madras, from Calcutta and Bombay, of surplus stock in those Presidencies.

REPORTS, says the *Civil and Military Gazette*, are again prevalent that the Amir of Kabul is massing troops on the frontier of Afghanistan, and is trying to intrigue with the nobles who are hostile to the presence of English troops at Khelat and Quettah, and who disapprove of the Khan's friendliness towards the British Government. These rumours must of course be taken with many grains of salt, and we give them with this caution.

THE LONDON SPECTATOR has a remarkable article on the value of wealth in politics. The writer doubts whether very great wealth does help a man in England much towards political power. There is said to be a great difference in this respect between England and the Continent, the influence of a millionaire being there far greater, more direct, and above all, more recognised. Our contemporary thus concludes:

"It is a remarkable fact that only one man of the very first class of fortune has, in our day, been a premier, the office having fallen generally to men who, in England at all events, and by comparison, must be accounted men of moderate means. Sir Robert Peel was probably for the richest of them all, save this one, and he was not supposed, as was shown once by an incident in the Commons to be as rich as his will proved him to be, and came in no way up to the vulgar English ideal of the magnifico. Earl Grey and lord Spencer were wealthy men, but not remarkable for wealth; and Lord John Russell, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Disraeli were all not only comparatively poor, but believed by the populace to be much poorer than they were. Earl Derby had indeed a vast property, though in his earlier life not so productive a one as it afterwards became, but if he had received no more than his grandfather did, the public, which, believed in him as the Ruport of Debate, and not as millionaire, would not have cared one straw. We suspect that immense means in themselves rather disqualify man for high office. The millionaires find so many interests in their lives, the pleasant things come to them so easily—though a million a year is no protection against toothache—that they get impatient of the worry, the labour, and the stinging publicity, as of living under a burning-glass, inseparable under our system from great political power. They fall into easy ways, and self-willed ways neither tend to fit a man for the acquisition or retention of power in a country which is not only free, but governed by deliberation.

Nevertheless no other country boasts of a better educated aristocracy than England.

IT IS now officially announced that the long promised Railway Conference will assemble in Calcutta during November next. Delegates from every local Government in India and Burma will attend, and from every Railway Company. The Chambers of Commerce of the three Presidencies are invited to send representatives as well as the leading merchants, European and native, of the principal towns.

THE INDIAN Valley Railway will be opened on the 1st June next.

IN SUPERSESSION of the Resolution of the Government of India in this Department, No. 860, dated the 7th June 1866, the Governor General in Council is pleased to declare that the rule prohibiting the grant of travelling allowance to a public officer transferred from one substantive appointment to another, when the transfer is accompanied by promotion, does not apply if the monthly pay of the officer, when he is transferred, is not more than Rs. (400) four hundred, and the immediate addition to it, in consequence of the transfer, is not more than Rs. (50) fifty.

THE GOVERNMENT of the N. W. P. reports under date the 3rd instant that reaping is now nearly finished, but threshing and winnowing have been retarded by the unsettled weather, and rain has done some injury to grain in threshing floor. The mango and mohua produce has also suffered from hail and storms. Prices, on the whole, remain stationary, and where a tendency to change is manifest, it is in the direction of a rise. Generally speaking, the condition of the people is as good as can be expected, with due regard to the deficiency in the rabi harvest.

THE PEKIN GAZETTE of the 16th March announces complete reconquest of Kashgar by the Chinese, thus confirming reports which reached India from other sources in February last.

THURSDAY, 16TH MAY.

THE GOVERNMENT of India in the Financial Department have just passed a Resolution regulating the income and expenditure of the Indian Museum. In future the Trustees will be allotted a sum of Rs. 20,000 per annum, with which to meet all charges and expenses with the exception of (1) the pay and allowances of the 4 superior officers and of the assistant to the Taxidermist; and (2) the rent of the Taxidermist's workshop, which items will be paid by Government separately. The usual condition attending expenditure upon the public service—*viz*: that the unexpended portion of the grant annually made lapses at the end of the financial year—is not to apply to this grant of Rs. 20,000 as the Trustees have found it most inconvenient in practice: in relaxation of that rule, the Trustees will be allowed to accumulate savings up to a limit of Rs. 10,000. The accounts of the Trustees will be annually audited by the Comptroller General, but no detailed estimate of the expenditure will in future be submitted by the Trustees. No person hereafter appointed to the service of the Trustees will be entitled to any pension or gratuity from Indian revenues, though they will be permitted to subscribe for pension or gratuity under Chapter VII. of Civil Pension Code.

MR. EDWIN ARNOLD says, in a preface to some Eastern sketches, that "India may be hot, dusty, distant, and whatever else the weary exile alleges when his liver goes wrong, but she is never for one moment, or in any spot, as regards her people, her scenery, her cities, towns, villages, or country places, vulgar. There is nothing in her not worth study and regard; for the stamp of a vast part is over all the land, and the very pariah dogs are classic to those who know Indian fables and how to be entertained by them." How few Europeans look at India in this light!

WE TAKE the following from an English paper:

Mr. D. P. M'Carthy, architect, of Barrington Street Limeric. has received the following letter, signed "G. A. Hanley, New Square, Lincoln's Inn";—"I am directed to inform you that the first instalment of the O'Keefe legacy has come to hand in your favour for £500,000. The whole or the greater portion of the five millions left by the deceased will come to you, except the portion allowed to your brothers, about which the Crown will decide. This vast fortune was acquired by a cousin of Mr. M'Carthy named O Keefe Mr. O'Keefe, while only about eighteen years of age made his way to India, where he enlisted as a private soldier. Through good conduct he secured a commission, but he did not retain it long believing that commerce was his real forte. He went into the opium trade, and soon acquired a colossal fortune. Mr. O'Keefe died unmarried in Feb. 1876. When Messrs. Carrington and Wighley, solicitors, of Calcutta, advertised for friends no fewer than 175 applicants put in claims, but they were all put aside, on investigation, in favour of Mr. M'Carthy, of Limerick, who has four brothers each of whom will come in for a twenty fifth part of the five millions and estate, but Mr. M'Carthy will be the recipient of the greater part of the fortune.

One sows, another reaps!

IT IS stated that the Marquis of Daltreith, who had just been on a tour in India, has been deeply impressed by the discontent and dislike to British rule which were manifested in the country. Where has the Marquis expressed this opinion, and what are his proofs? Did His Lordship visit Bengal? We did not hear any thing about him.

THE INSIGNIA of the Order of the Crown of India will consist of an oval of pearls embracing the monogram "V. I. R," the "V" being composed of diamonds, and the "I. R." of pearls. The oval is surmounted by the Imperial Crown, in gold, pearls, and enamel. The Order will be worn on the shoulder pendant from a bow of pale blue watered silk ribbon, edged with white.

WE READ that orders have been issued for the immediate construction of a semi-permanent battery at Fultah, one of the narrowest points of the Hooghly, about 36 miles below Calcutta. The battery will be armed with ten 6-inch rifled muzzle-loaders—and will cover the torpedo defences which are already in hand. Platforms and carriages for the guns are now being made up in the arsenal at Fort William, to be eventually replaced by others from England.

WE ARE glad to learn that a very serious mischief, which was being practised for some time to the great detriment to the security of life and property on the East India line, is likely to be put a stop to. Between the 155th and 157th mile of the loop line, East Indian Railway, the spokes which fastened the chairs supporting the rails used to be wrenched off, and every attempt made to trace and detect the perpetrators proved abortive. A correspondent now informs us that Inspector Okhilnath Roy has succeeded in apprehending some of the offenders and securing their conviction. The miscreants it is said were certain mistris and khalasies of the Public Works Department, Railway Branch. In the case under notice two men were apprehended, and they have been sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment and 50 Rs. fine. The Railway Company had offered a reward of Rs 100 to the successful detective, and Babu Okhilnath has earned it.

FRIDAY, 17TH MAY.

IN NOTICING last week the secession of certain Mahomedan converts to Christianity from the Christian Church we remarked that "the cause of Christianity does not gain by such questionable adhesions." *Apropos* of this remark the *Indian Christian Herald* says:

"The *Patriot* is right, and we may add that far from gaining, the cause of truth suffers materially from them. But what is to be deplored, in such cases, is not so much the base with which the so-called converts revert to Mahomedanism but the hastiness with which they had been admitted into the Church of Christ. Preachers of the Gospel are apt to forget that their chief business is to preach Christ and him crucified and not to baptize. It is when this truth is lost sight of, and the preachers of the Gospel are imbued with a proselytising spirit, that we meet with instances of the kind referred to above. Such instances would be rare, if the Preachers had no proselytising spirit."

We wish the Christian Missionaries would bear in mind these simple truths.

AHMEDNUGGUR has been the scene of an accident, which is said to have caused several deaths. A Parsee theatrical club were performing in the local theatre when a fire broke out, and the place was burnt down. The performers escaped, but between thirty and forty of the audience were killed, and many others were rescued badly burnt.

WE ARE EXCEEDINGLY grieved to learn that Mr. Sutcliffe, the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, has entirely lost his eyesight, the result of some disease which, it is said, he caught while in India Later accounts, however, state that he is better.

DR. THOMPSON, late Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens, is dead.

THE ENGLISHMAN has received the following telegram from Bombay: "Numerous arrests have been made of railway officials, including the goods traffic manager of Bombay. They are charged with being concerned in grain robberies on the G. I. P. railway. Important revelations are expected."

THE BANK OF BENGAL has reduced the rates of interest and discount one per cent. all round. The

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Bank rate of interest is now 4 per cent., the lowest we have seen for some years past. It is said that a new loan will be soon floated by Government.

THE PIONEER thus concludes an article :

as a practical beginning of a more appreciative epoch, the Government might, with great reason, endeavour to tempt more educated natives with medical employ, might give some additional stimulus to zeal, hold out some new prize to ambition, and in some way or other avoid the consummation of an educational system, in which medical science finds a place so ludicrously and lamentably disproportionate to its inherent importance,

The first step ought to be to raise the pay and status of the Native Medical Service. The Assistant Surgeons are the worst paid officers in all India.

SATURDAY, 18TH MAY.

THE MORTALITY in Calcutta for the week ending the 11th May was in excess of that in the week preceding, the total deaths were 350, which is 31 in excess of those in the week before. In the week under report the deaths from small-pox were 105, from fever 71, from cholera 44, diarrhœa and dysentery 28, tetanus 13, and the rest from other causes.

WE HAVE received the following telegram dated the 17th instant: "Goa and Duke of Atholl arrived at Suez sixteenth instant, all well and proceeded at once through canal."

MR. ALONZO MONEY C. B. has been permitted to retire from the Bengal Civil Service from the 27th of April last. Bengal loses in "Alonzo the Brave" an able, experienced, and large-hearted officer.

THE MILL-OWNERS of Lancashire have reduced the wages 10 per cent. and there has been a strike among the operatives. The total number of looms in the strike district is 212,000, out of 470,000 in the United Kingdom, and the number of spindles is 6,300,000. Upwards of 60,000 operatives are, in fact, on strike, and the masters have in every case issued their ultimatum, and await the result with calmness. If the strike continues, close on 150,000 persons will be out of work. According to the latest news the operatives have given in.

THE PUNJAB Chief Court, says a contemporary, has had a curious appeal before it, the end of a very painful tragedy. The wife of a hillman was unfaithful, and he not brooking the shame made two attempts to commit suicide. He was prevented and punished for the attempt, and then made up his mind to murder the woman. This he did in the full expectation of being hung for the crime; but the Sessions Judge passed only the lower sentence of transportation for life, and the unhappy convict has appealed to the Chief Court to revise the sentence and condemn him to death, alleging that there were no grounds to justify the Judge in not passing the severer sentence.

THE EAST says that Babu Kali Prasanna Dutt, a resident of Chao Cha in Furridpore, "will shortly proceed to America to study practical sciences there. He was a student of the Barrisaul School and passed the First Arts Examination last year from Lamartinere College."

THE TWENTY-SIXTH Annual General Meeting of the British Indian Association was held on Wednesday last. Raja Degumber Mitter was elected President, and Maharajah Narendrakrishna Senior Vice-President. Dr. Rajendralala Mitra was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association. We will publish a full report of the meeting next week.

THE PIONEER has the following fling at Mr Whitley Stokes, the present Law Member of the Supreme Council :

The *entente cordiale* which Sir H. Maine, Sir James Stephen and Sir Arthur Hobhouse labored so sedulously and so successfully to establish and maintain between the Bench, the Bar, and the legal profession generally on the one hand, and the Legislative Department on the other, has been unfortunately broken up by the rude language and injudicious action of the present legal member of Council. The Judges are aggrieved at finding their suggestions slighted, their protests over-ruled, and their dignity and usefulness impugned; the Bar derisively welcome each new instalment of legislation as the certain material of future lawsuits and welcome fees; the public and the Press, in which the public feeling finds expression, has a sense that a legal system, technical, elaborate, and over-refined in some cases, meddlesome, intrusive, and troublesome in others, unnecessary and pedantic in a third class of cases, is growing up with unhealthy rapidity, and threatening to overlay the every-day affairs of life with provisions which may look very pretty to a draftsman's eye, and may delight the taste of the English conveyancer, but which are, to the ordinary lay intellect, difficult to understand and inconvenient to apply.

But was not the *Pioneer* the first to cry up the appointment of the present Law Member?

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, 12th May —Count Schouvaloff has taken no written proposals to St. Petersburgh, but only goes to explain in person to the Czar the views of the British Government. The *Observer* states that the British Government has purchased ten acres of land at Port Said for the purpose of establishing a coaling station.

13th.—An important debate takes place in the Commons to-night, on the motions brought forward by the opposition condemning as an unconstitutional procedure, the step taken by Government in bringing Indian troops to Europe, and incurring expenditure in connection therewith without the sanction of Parliament.

13th.—In the House of Commons this evening, Sir Stafford Northcote, replying to a question, said that the Indian Army was never reckoned in the number sanctioned by the Mutiny Act, and that the Indian Expeditionary Force was not included in the Mutiny Act of the present year. In consequence of this answer, the Marquis of Hartington gave notice of a motion in the House of Commons, that except in India, no forces shall be raised and kept by the Crown in time of peace, without the sanction of Parliament. The said motion expresses no opinion on the policy of Government. Sir Stafford Northcote will submit an estimate on the 27th instant, when the Marquis of Hartington will move. The Queen to-day reviewed 16,000 troops at Aldershot.

14th.—A debate in the Commons on the Irish Sunday Closing Bill, which was commenced on Monday evening, was only finished at nine this morning, owing to the tactics of the Obstructionists. Sir Stafford Northcote this evening said that the Marquis of Hartington's motion was fixed for the 20th instant.

15th.—A serious riot amongst the men on strike took place at Blackburn last night. The rioters set fire to the house of the President of the Masters' Society, and smashed the windows of the mills. The riot eventually assumed such a serious aspect that the military were called out from Preston. Advices from South America state that a most destructive earthquake has visited Venezuela, during which 600 lives were lost.

16th.—The riots at Blackburn continue. Several arrests have been made. The military force has been strengthened, but no collisions have yet taken place between the rioters and troops.

16th.—Russian Agents are negotiating for the purchase of ships in the United States suitable for privateers. Nothing has transpired respecting Schouvaloff's mission.

17th —Negotiations are proceeding between the masters and operatives at Blackburn; the basis of conditions is resumption of work for three months at ten per cent. reduction, and if trade is then improved, wages are to be increased. In well-informed quarters at St. Petersburgh, it is considered possible that the Russians will not insist on annexing Batoum.

17th.—The Globe strongly urges a speedy decision concerning the incorporation of the Central Provinces with Bombay and a transfer of Scinde to the Punjaub. Russian troops have advanced to Kavaskoi which is nearer to Constantinople than they were before. Russian agents have brought a swift steamer in the state of California.

London, May 17.—Sir M. Hicks Beach announced to the Commons that he would bring forward an amendment to Lord Hartingtons motion, that the control of Parliament over the employment of military forces was fully secured by their right to refuse supplies, and that it was inexpedient to pass a resolution weakening the hands of Government at this juncture.

The Russian Press has assumed a more moderate tone towards England.

Constantinople, 12th May.—The Porte has issued a notice, elaborately setting forth many sweeping and liberal reforms to be carried out. The Turks maintain that the treaty of San Stefano stipulates that the Quadrilateral fortresses are to be surrendered to Bulgaria, and not to Russia.

14th—The Russian Army at San Stefano is being strongly re-inforced. Tension between the Porte and the Russian military authorities respecting the evacuation of fortresses is increasing.

14th—The insurgents now threaten the Philipopolis line of railway, and are entrenched near Bazardchik.

Vienna, 15th May.—In yesterday's sitting of the Hungarian Chamber of Deputies, there was a debate on the Eastern Question, during which the President of the Council of Ministers said that the Government had solely pursued a policy in keeping with Austro Hungarian interest, and had taken precautions to increase the troops on the Northern, Southern, and Eastern frontiers.

Berlin, 12th May.—The perpetrator of the attempted assassination of the Emperor William is a Socialist of Leipzig.

St. Petersurgh, 12th May.—A Semi-Official note has been published, advocating the solution of the question at issue by assuring the vitality of the Turkish Empire, giving an administrative autonomy to the Christian population of Turkey as a tributary to the Porte, and that Bosnia be given to Austria.

13th.—Count Schouvaloff has arrived here. The Official Russian Gazette appeals to the nation to form a volunteer fleet. The Grand Duke Alexander has opened a subscription in its behalf.

St, Petersburg May 17.—It is believed here that Count Schouvaloff has convinced the Czar, that Russias interest is to concede to Europe, the principal demands made by England, and that the assembling of a European Congress appears to be assured, despite the difficulties to be overcome at Constantinople.

The *Times of India* has received the following telegram *via* Egypt :

Bombay, 17th May, 10h.—The India Office discredits the statements regarding the Russian Expedition to Egypt, or the feasibility of a Russian advance on India *via* Herat, which have been discussed in the English journals. The plan for defending Bombay by a system of torpedoes is approved of at home. It is understood that Indian officials will endeavour to minimise the original intention of the new Press Act as much as possible. There is much excitement about the Act at home among both parties, and every facility will be afforded for a special debate in the Commons, all other subjects standing over for that evening.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications :—1 Report on the Administration of the Meteorological Department under the Govt. of India for 1876 77. 2 Report on the Meteorology of India for 1876. 3 Report on the Criminal judicial administration of the Central Provinces for 1877. 4 The 18th Report of the Bengal Family Pension Fund for 1877. 5 Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for March 1878, with a statement for twelve months of last year and a comparative statement of the accounts of the last two years.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendralal Sircar to-morrow Evening at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Galvanometer.

3

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on *Saturday* the *25th Inst.* next, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Ozone and Atmospheric Air.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 20, 1878.

ASSAM UNDER COL. KEATINGE.

FOUR years have elapsed since Assam was separated from Bengal and placed under a Chief Commissioner directly subject to the Government of India. Col. Keatinge was appointed the first Chief Commissioner. As the gallant Colonel is about to take furlough and as it is believed he is not likely to return to India, this is a fit opportunity to enquire how far the separate Government of Assam has proved successful. Opinion was divided when Assam was separated from Bengal. Sir George Campbell was opposed to it. He justly held that there was so much homogeniety in the circumstances of Bengal and Assam that a separation was undesirable. To Bengal the divorce has not been of any consequence, but has it benefited Assam? The chief ground for the separation was the assumption that the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal had not sufficient time to attend to the affairs of an outlying province like Assam, which consequently suffered. For four years Assam has had the luxury of a separate Government, and what is the result? We see no new signs of progress; there has been only a change in the spirit of administration and increased expense to the State. The principles of administration in Bengal are progressive, but Assam being left alone is entirely at the mercy of non-regulation absolutism. There is no public opinion there; vigour beyond the law, if we are to believe our Assam correspondents, seems to be the rule; indegenous talents and aspirations scarcely find an outlet. Perhaps the experiment of a separate administration of Assam has not received a fair trial in consequence of the ill-chosen agency. Lord Northbrook never committed a grosser mistake than when he selected Col. Keatinge as the Chief Commissioner of Assam. As a man Col. Keatinge has many estimable qualities; he is a perfect gentleman, frank and hearty. But he had no administrative experience, and did not know the people over whom he was set to rule. For the first year or two he went on smoothly enough, because he had at his elbow Mr. Luttman-Johnson, late Private Secretary of Sir George Campbell. This gentleman was brought up under the immediate care and supervision of that able, though erratic, administrator. He had become well acquainted with the administrative system of Bengal, and with the requirements of Assam. His appointment as Secretary to the Government of Assam was therefore hailed on all sides. But somehow or other the Chief and his Secretary disagreed after a time, and they parted company, and from that day the new Assam Government lost its real strength. Mr. Ridsdale was appointed Secretary to the Chief Commissioner. He was a settlement officer of the North-Western Provinces, and had no experience of Bengal or Assam. Like his chief he was a stranger to the province, and he lacked the ability of his predecessor. Col. Keatnige's first act was the removal of the capital of Assam to Shillong, a hill-retreat, away from the populous parts of the Province. If he had made it his summer residence, the people would not have complained, but as he made it his permanent head-quarters, they were subjected to great expense, trouble, and inconvenience. Neither the tea planters nor the natives liked this move of the new Chief Commissioner. The second measure which Col. Keatinge took alienated the sympathies of the educated natives. He doubled up the two appointments of Inspector of Schools and the Inspector General of Registration in the person of Dr. Martin, and the result was the neglect of the educational interests of the province. How could an officer who was partly an Educational and partly a registration officer devote his undivided attention to the affairs of the education Department? Then he struck a serious blow upon the cause of English education by abolishing the

Gowhatti High School. Far from encouraging or extending high English education he took this retrograde step. Then Col. Keatinge undertook two expeditions against the neighbouring hillmen, the Nagas and Dufflas, which resulted in their complete subjugation. Measures were taken to mark off the boundaries of the Garo Hills. The Commission appointed to determine the boundaries annexed portions of private estates belonging to some of the Goalpara zemindars, *viz.*, Rai Protapachunder Burrooah of Gouripore, and Babu Telokchunder Chowdry and others of Lukhimpore. They made repeated representations to the Chief Commissioner but without effect. They were forced to institute civil suits against the local Government, the first claiming three lacs of rupees and the second 12 lacs. The Government of India, seeing this dissatisfaction among the zemindars, ordered the Chief Commissioner to make a compromise with the claimants. A similar dispute is still pending between the Raja of Bijni and the Assam Government. These arbitrary measures of the Chief Commissioner have necessarily produced great dissatisfaction. Similar dissatisfaction was caused by the arbitrary assessment of rent-free lands, and the Government of India again felt its duty to intervene. The Chief Commissioner came into a somewhat unpleasant contact with the Tributary State of Munipore. He prohibited the Maharaja of Munipore to acquire land in British territory. He thus relates the story about it in his last administration report: "It having come to the knowledge of the Chief Commissioner that the Maharajah held under settlement pottah extensive lands in Sylhet and Cachar, Colonel Keatinge expressed to the Government of India his opinion that it was undesirable that the Maharajah should acquire land in British territory. In this opinion the Government of India concurred. The Deputy-Commissioner of Cachar was accordingly directed to cancel the proceedings in all cases in which settlement had not been actually concluded with the Maharajah. The land already acquired by the Maharajah the Chief Commissioner decided he should be allowed to hold, but he forbade him to acquire any more. Later on, a similar question arose as to the settlement of certain ilam estates in Sylhet, to which the Maharajah had a claim to re-settlement. In this matter, the Chief Commissioner ruled that, as regards such estates acquired by the Maharajah previous to the date upon which the distinct prohibition against his acquiring land in British territory was communicated to him, the settlement, though it could not be made with the Maharajah directly, would be made with any British subject whom the Maharajah might select as responsible for the revenue." Now this is the first instance we believe of a tributary prince being prohibited to acquire land in British territory. What objection could there be to such acquisition of land by a native prince we cannot understand. Although some natives have been appointed to the Assam Commission, under the orders of the Government of India, Col. Keatinge is believed not to be favorable to the educated natives. Our Assam correspondent says: "Col. Keatinge was not in favor of the advancement of the native officers. It is true that he promoted Roy Gunaviram Barua to an Extra Assistant Commissionership on Rs. 600 a month *vice* Mr. Shadwell retired, but he at first raised all sorts of pretexts not to give the lift *to a native*. Of course under orders of the Government of India several natives have been appointed Extra Assistant Commissioners, but the selections were not always good. His order for the removal of Babu Chandra Mohun Gassami from the list of Extra Assistant is a serious blot on his administration." There seems to be no cordiality between the Tea planters and the Chief Commissioner. Col. Keatinge thus writes in his last administration report: "As in previous years, so in the year under report, many of the planters submitted no returns concerning the tea cultivation on their estates, and, consequently, the information contained in this section is incomplete. The Chief Commissioner considers it hopeless to expect to obtain complete returns of this nature for the whole Province, as long as their submission by the planters is altogether optional; indeed, he has reason to fear that, owing to the action of proprietors, the number of gardens submitting returns will considerably decrease. It is, accordingly, of very questionable utility to attempt to trace the progress of the tea industry on such data, as deductions drawn from incomplete or inaccurate returns are worse than useless. It is, indeed, much to be regretted that all the endeavours of the authorities to obtain complete returns have been unsuccessful, as accurate statistics exhibiting the development of this important industry would be of the greatest value, as well as of general interest. Attempts have been made by the district officers to obtain approximate statistics of outturn, based on the returns of gardens which submitted the required statements, and to eliminate the cultivated area of defaulting gardens from former returns, or from inquiries from other sources; but it is evident that figures so obtained cannot be relied on for accuracy." In one branch only was the administration of Col. Keatinge undeniably successful, we mean in the execution of Public Works. Our Assam corresponden writes: "Be it said to Colonel Keatinge's credit that he paid considerable attention to the Public Works Department. Now, you see here a *Serai*, there a *well furnished* Dak Bunglow, and somewhere else a steam ferry. All this is due to Col. Keatinge. The extension of the Telegraph line from Gowhati to Debrughur is completed, and the credit of this work is due to him. The obstacles to easy communication with the Bengal Districts have been greatly removed. An efficient steamer service has been established in the province." Such has been the administration of Assam under Col. Keatinge. We dare say he meant well, but he lacked administrative ability and experience. He had not good tools to work with; the spirit of the local officers was above the law, but he did nothing to check this lawless spirit. He cherished no sympathy for the people, and he failed to win their approbation and affection. He was too near Bengal, and so he suffered by contrast. We are deliberately of opinion that the separation of Assam from Bengal was a grievous mistake.

THE FAMINE COMMISSION.

Now that the Famine Commission has been regularly constituted, it is worthy of consideration whether its enquiries should be limited to the Presideacies of Madras and Bombay, or should be extended to the whole country. The appointment of the Commission was founded upon a despatch of the late Secretary of State. Lord Salisbury would not discuss the personal questions which arose between the local Governments of Madras and Bombay and the Government of India, but he wrote that "there were other questions, however, which have been raised in connection with this famine which could not properly be dismissed without further investigation. Some points in the actual administration of relief were during the past few months the subject of warm controversy, while some others which have reference either to the prevention of future famines or to the mitigation of the sufferings they cause, are still anxiously debated. It is desirable that the opportunity should not be lost of investigating these by the light of the experience which has been recently acquired. It must be for some time doubtful how far the meteorological phenomena of the last twelve years are to be taken as a fair sample of the climate of India. But in any case it is evident that the protection of the people of India from the effects of the uncertainty of the seasons will constitute in the future no inconsiderable portion of the work of the Government. It is, therefore, a duty to collect with the utmost care all information which may assist future administrators in the task of limiting the range or mitigating the intensity of those calamities." Again: "A Commission, constituted of three or five of the most competent persons your Excellency is able to select, will be the most suitable instrument for conducting this investigation. It should consist of men who have not taken any active part in the labours or controversies of the past year, and it is desirable that it should include at least one Native Commissioner. It should enter upon its labours as soon as the local authorities have been released by the return of normal conditions from the pressing duties of relief." Then His Lordship indicated the points upon which difference of opinion had arisen, and in respect to which, therefore, the collection of evidence, and the expression of an independent and authoritative opinion would be valuable. One of the earliest points upon which discussion arose was the size and class of relief works which it was expedient to encourage. At the outset of the famine Sir Philip Woodehouse came to the conclusion that a few large works, giving employment to considerable numbers of men, and conducted under the officers of the Public Works Department, were preferable to a multitude of petty village works, conducted under the revenue officers of each district. In the first instance the Government of India declined to authorize the larger works to the extent, which Sir Philip Wodehouse had desired. The second point was the distribution of grain. The Government of India insisted that the task of distributing grain throughout the famine area should be left to the unrestricted operations of trade. The Secretary of State observes: "The experience of famine relief hitherto obtained in India would seem to show that the rule observed by your Excellency is sound, under ordinary circumstances, but that there are contingencies under which it cannot be sustained, especially where communications are liable to sudden interruption by the weather. In the Madras famine it appears to have been highly successful; in the Bengal famine a considerable deviation from it was found to be necessary; and its too rigid observance in the Orissa famine led to a great calamity. A careful examination, therefore into the circumstances of its application during the past distress will be of material utility." The third point was the quantity and quality of food. Lord Salisbury says: "A warm controversy arose among the medical advisers of the three Governments, in which the question was argued to a great extent upon theoretic grounds, and upon analogies derived from the experience of soldiers and convicts. This method of investigation led to no satisfactory conclusion, though possibly at the time no other was fully available. The experience of the past year will, if sufficient breadth and variety of evidence be collected, render it possible to arrive at a definite conclusion upon this vital point." The Secretary of State then adds:

"I have no wish to confine the investigations of the Commissioners to those points in the experience of the past famine which I have indicated above. There may be other points in respect to which your Excellency's Government, after consultation with the Government of Madras, may think that inquiry would be desirable, and might produce useful results. But an inquiry into the best system of famine relief will not be the whole, or the most important part of their duty. It is of still more essential importance to ascertain how far it is possible for Government by its action to diminish the severity of famines, or to place the people in a better condition for enduring them."

In discussing the remedial measures the Secretary of State says that works of irrigation are naturally the most effective remedy for a deficiency of rainfall, and no doubt can be entertained of the benefit they confer wherever they can be had without excessive cost, and where there is a permanent and sufficient supply of water to sustain them. But from the experience that has already been gained, it is probable that the localities suited for profitable irrigation are very limited in area, and that the list of canals which the Government can undertake without loss cannot be largely extended. Referring to Madras Lord Salisbury remarks: "In the reports which your Excellency has forwarded to me from time to time, I find much to lead me to believe that the very cause which produced the famine in many cases has made irrigation works wholly or partially ineffective. The same want of rain, which parched the fields, emptied the tanks and lessened the volume of the rivers. The absence of glaciers in the hills of Southern India would naturally render the irrigation canals far more liable to be affected by want of rain, than similar works in the valleys of the Ganges and the Indus. Sir R. Temple, in his Minute of the 15th of April, gives a description of the effect of the drought upon these channels even before the south-west monsoon had failed, which seems to indicate that want of water will probably be a fatal obstacle to any large extension of irrigation." His Lordship continues:

It will be one of the most important tasks of the Commission to ascertain how far his failure extended; what was the condition, for the purposes of irrigation, during this drought, of the canals, the tanks and the wells in the famine districts; to what extent they performed the function of protecting the population against famine; and to estimate, as far as possible, the amount of saving thus effected in the cost of Government relief. They should also report upon the measures which may, in their judgment, be practicable for extending a similar protection to portions of the population of Madras or Bombay who do not now enjoy it, either by the improvement of existing works, or the construction of new works. In particular, it would be desirable that they should ascertain the feasibility both in respect to physical and to financial conditions, of Sir R. Temple's suggestion that tanks should be made capable of containing, and retaining, a two years' supply of water.

The opinion has been expressed that the practical effect of the tenure which is most largely prevalent in the Madras Presidency is to disincline the tenant from expending his labour or his money on the excavation of wells. Any general inquiry into the merits or demerits of the ryotwari system would in itself be too onerous an extension of the labours of the Commission, and would be, to a great extent, superfluous, as the controversy which was conducted for so long a time upon that subject has furnished as ample materials for the formation of a judgement on the general question as are likely to be obtained. But it would be expedient to collect opinions upon the single point, whether there is, owing to the prevalent tenure, any such uncertainty in the mind of a ryot as to his immediate prospects, as to discourage him from digging or deepening wells where otherwise it would be his interest to do so.

It will be seen from the above that the scope of the enquiries of the Commission is limited to the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay. But every part of the country is now more or less subject to drought or deficient rain-fall, and consequently to the calamity of a scarcity or famine, and it is therefore necessary that the investigation of the Commission should embrace the whole country. Since the date of the despatch of the Secretary of State the N. W. P. have passed through a severe ordeal. Then Bengal, though not now afflicted with a scarcity, is practically passing through the famine stage owing to high prices. But Bengal may be again afflicted, so may be Orissa or other parts of the country. It is thus essential that the condition of the whole country in this respect should be investigated and reviewed by the Commission. What are the peculiar circumstances in the different parts of the country, which prevent the people from resisting the pressure at a time of providential visitation like the famine or flood. Then, are the same principles of famine relief applicable to all parts of the country? Again, are the remedial measures for the prevention of the recurrence of the famine the same for different parts of the country? These are most important questions for the Commission to enquire into. We would, therefore, suggest the extension of the scope of the enquiries of the Commission. It is also meet that experienced native gentlemen representing the different provinces should be associated with the Commission. It is time that the question of the famine should be investigated and solved for the whole country. The Government has done much by alleviating present suffering and saving life, but it ought to provide against the future so far as it lies in its power.

THE PRESS COMMISSIONER.

IN noticing the appointment of the Press Commissioner the other day we asked a question whether it was intended to vest that officer with any functions under the Vernacular Press Act. We are now credibly informed that there is an intention of utilizing the services of the Press Commissioner as an adviser of the Government of India in matters coming under the new Press law. The Press Commissioner will certainly have the best opportunities for guaging native public opinion. The policy of the Government in appointing the Press Commissioner is so distinct from that of the Vernacular Press Act that we were not a little surprised that a statesman, who conceived the idea of co-operating with the English Press in India by placing at its disposal correct information and thus strengthening its criticisms on public measures and men, should have lent his support to a law, with regard to the Vernacular Press, which would have practically the effect of gagging it. The Press in this country is a most useful auxiliary to the cause of order and good government. But there has been an unreasoning jealousy in certain official quarters against it. The official mind somehow thinks that the Press is in chronic antagonism to officialdom. Nothing is further from the truth than this. The object which the officials and the Press have in view is the same—the good of the people. The Crown is the fountain of justice and mercy, and the officers, who represent it, are appointed to combine justice with mercy in carrying on the administration of the empire. The function of the Press is to see that the commission of the Crown is duly carried out. It is natural that the official looks at things from his own point of view; he is either the originator of measures or the executant of them, and he has a world of his own, in which he moves, lives, and has his being. He may be thoroughly honest and conscientious, but all his acts may not tend to promote the object which he has undoubtedly at heart, *viz.*, the good of the people. On the other hand the people or those who look to their interests may consider it their duty to oppose official views and acts, and whenever there is such a conflict the zealous official mind not unfrequently becomes jealous. The object of Lord Lytton's move is evidently to remove this jealousy. It is true that sometimes the criticisms of the press are based on wrong information or inaccurate facts, but in this the Press is not to blame. There is a partition between the official and non-official world, which it is not given to the conductors of the Press generally to penetrate into. There may be here and there a favoured few, who may receive crumbs of official intelligence, but these depend on personal kindness or friendship. Such relations between individual officers of Government and independent members of the Press are not healthy. Perhaps the preference is bought with the price of liberty; at any rate the partiality shewn to a few cause heart-burning and jealousy to many. Seeing these evils Lord Lytton has established the Press Commissioner, and his experimental working for the last twelve months shews that the criticisms of the Press have become strengthened because they are now based on reliable facts. The question is would not the same policy have placed the Vernacular Press on an improved footing? Confidence begets confidence, and if the Government had shewn confidence in the Vernacular Press by supplying it with facts and papers, surely that Press would have had a better opportunity of circulating the truth and basing their criticisms upon it. The tone of some of the Vernacular papers is considered objectionable; but we do not believe that if the mistakes of these papers be pointed out in a kind and conciliatory spirit, they would persist in such mistakes. It is of course a delicate task to deal with press comments. The utmost latitude ought to be allowed to the Press in its criticisms upon the measures of Government, but friendly communications may lead public writers to modify criticisms in the light of facts, which they would not consent to if they were approached in a dictatorial spirit. We have already noticed that the Vernacular Press Act has been virtually suspended by His Excellency the Viceroy, that no action will be taken by the local Governments without the previous sanction of the Government of India. This implies that the action of the local Governments should be regulated by the Press Commissioner. Now, if the Press Commissioner should act as the responsible adviser of the Government of India, in all matters connected with the Press, he should be placed in a position to perform his duties efficiently and satisfactorily. The Vernacular papers of India are printed in the vernaculars of the different provinces, and the Commissioner cannot be expected to be acquainted with all of them. He must necessarily depend upon translations, but the complaint of the conductors of the Vernacular papers is that the translations are not done properly or faithfully. Isolated passages culled here and there do not convey the real meaning of the writer. On the contrary they have a tendency to produce a misapprehension and misconstruction of his motives. Again, a foreign translator, however able, cannot be expected to enter fully into the meaning and niceties of the Vernacular language. As the *Sahachar* pointed out the other day even the Deity is addressed in words which those who are not acquainted with the genius of the language mistake for blasphemy. Thus a worshipper not unfrequently says "Oh! Siva, Thy votaries receive no justice, no reward." "Oh! Vishnu, is this a proof of Thy solicitude for the welfare of Thy worshippers!" "Oh! Lukshmi thou smilest not unfrequently upon the wicked!" All this reproach is in reality no reproach—it emanates from *vakhti* and *kheda*, faith and lamentation. Now these feelings are quite compatible with a profound feeling of piety. In the same way a Vernacular paper may reproach the Government and question its justice, but all this may be perfectly compatible with genuine loyalty, and it requires a thorough knowledge of the genius of the language to comprehend these nice shades of feeling. It is, therefore, necessary that the translator should be a native of the country, in whose fidelity the Government has confidence. With a proper staff of translators the Press Commissioner may perform his work intelligently. If the Local Governments carry out the suggestions we made the other day to help and encourage the Vernacular Press, and if the Press Commissioner acts in the right spirit, it will not be necessary to enforce the new Law. Indeed, the Viceroy will vindicate his own name and character, if he will of his own accord take off the chains, which he has now put upon the Vernacular Press.

THE LOKENATHPORE CASE.

THE judgments of the High Court in the Lokenathpore case have been published. Justices Markby and Prinsep, who have come to the same conclusion on the main point, have, however, taken diametrically opposite views of the case. It might be remembered that Mr. Stevens, the Magistrate of Nuddea, refused to submit the report of Mr. Skrine, because he held it was not a judicial document. On the other hand the Counsel on behalf of the petitioner urged that the enquiry being judicial, the report was necessarily a judicial document. Mr. Justice Markby says: "It was necessary to decide the question which he (the Magistrate) submitted to us, quite independently of the present application. For my own part also, I strongly desire to have the assistance of the advisers of the Crown in a discussion of this character. The question is of considerable importance, and one which may, in some cases, be of very serious consequence whether the result of an inquiry under this section is such that, without the possibility of using any discretion in the matter, the Magistrate is bound to make it public. I therefore thought it desirable to issue a Rule in order to bring in the Crown and have the question discussed. Accordingly we issued a Rule, in order to have the benefit of the argument of counsel for the Crown upon the construction of this Section." Mr. Justice Prinsep, though taking the same view, puts the matter in a different form altogether. Thus he remarks: "As regards the form in which the present application is made to us, I must say that I have always entertained serious doubts as to the *locus standi* of the petitioners, and it was, as has already been stated in the judgment which has been just delivered, on account of the importance of deciding the position of the Magistrate with regard to this particular report and the proceedings taken by him, that led me to agree in the course taken." Again, Mr Justice Markby remarks:

"I understand the real object of these proceedings to be to clear the memory of the deceased man from an imputation which has undoubtedly been cast upon him. Whether we can arrive at that result under the law as it stands, is a different matter, but I am bound to say that I consider that the object, if it can be attained by law, is a perfectly legitimate object. No one can doubt that it must be a matter of great pain to persons connected with this unfortunate man, that this statement—viz., that he had committed suicide under such circumstances as the Magistrate supposes, should have been made. It may no doubt sometimes be the duty of public officers to make statements which are painful to others, but there is nothing objectionable if persons affected by those statements try by any legal means in their power to get rid of those statements; and I go one step further. I think that the relatives of this deceased person were not rash in their inference, when they found a document of this kind printed and published, that it was intended to be put forth as the judicial result of a judicial enquiry. It commences thus:—" From F. H. Skrine, Esquire,

Officiating Joint Magistrate on special duty,—To the Magistrate of Nuddea. I have the honor to submit a report embodying the results of my enquiry into the cause of the death of Ramgutty Biswas," and so on. Reasonably enough the way in which it struck them was that this was not merely an opinion of an individual formed upon the best materials that he could get together by any means in his power, and reported confidentially to his superior officers, but that it was an opinion of a judicial officer formed upon evidence and in a judicial manner. Although they were misled in supposing that it was a document of this nature, I think that they were very reasonably justified in assuming that it was so. I may also say that if this document had been of that character, and one therefore under our control, I should not have hesitated for a moment, if the law would allow me, in setting it aside."

Let us turn to Mr. Justice Prinsep's remarks on this point. He says :

"Whatever grounds the relations of the deceased may have to complain of the terms of the report in the form in which they produce it before us, and the aspersions that it may cast on the memory of the deceased Ramgutty Biswas, I think that the observations of the learned Advocate-General in the course of his argument completely disposes of any objection that they may take to the terms in which that report mentions Ramgutty. That report was never published until, through some injudicious agitations of the friends or advisers of the petitioners, a pressure was brought to bear on the Government, which induced the latter to consent to the publication of that report in the expurgated form in which it has been laid before us. Had this course not been taken on behalf of the petitioner, that report would never have been published or been made known, except to the officials immediately concerned. We have no power to quash that report as we are asked to do, nor has it been suggested that any good result would ensue in the ends of justice by any reopening of the inquiry, since it is admitted that nothing is forthcoming or likely to be elicited which would throw any fresh light on the circumstances attending the death of Ramgutty Biswas.

What a difference in the spirit of the remarks of the two Judges! The one is frank, honorable and generous, the other captious, narrow-minded and intolerant. We are sorry that we are constrained to thus stigmatize the remarks of Mr. Justice Prinsep, because we have a high respect for him. We should be sorry to believe that he was betrayed into these remarks by a fraternal feeling, but we cannot but regret that a Judge of his cool temperament, broad views, wide sympathies, and clear judgment should have forgotten himself on the bench, and given expression to remarks, which reflected equally upon the public who espoused the cause of the poor relatives of the deceased, and upon the Government, which shewed a deference to public opinion. His colleague, Mr. Markby, has condemned Mr. Skrine's report in no measured terms. He says, that if that document had been a judicial document, and, "therefore, under our control I should not have hesitated for a moment, if the law allowed me, to set it aside." Mr. Skrine's mode of enquiry was a public scandal, and the Government saved its own character by publishing the report, which shewed that it was not responsible for the vagaries of its subordinate officers. But here is a Judge of the High Court, who goes out of his way and by implication condemns the Government for giving way to the "pressure" exerted by the friends or advisers of the petitioners. We repeat we are sorry that Mr. Prinsep forgot his functions on the bench in this instance.

As for the dictum laid down by the Judges we must as a matter of course bow to it. Mr. Justice Markby says, "I think that it may be fairly argued that *prima facie* when a Magistrate holds a judicial inquiry and has power to take evidence, we should expect that it was intended that some result should be arrived at. But though that is so at first sight, I think on further consideration it is by no means clear even upon a general view of the Act, independently of the exact language of the section itself, that that was the intention of the Legislature." He then continues: "The object of these enquiries may be three-fold. The object may be to calm any alarm that had been created in the mind of the public on the occurrence of a violent or unnatural death, and to allay any unfounded suspicion; or the object may be to put in force the law against a particular individual; or it may be merely to gain information to be used by the authorities; according to their discretion. Now looking at the general character of this section, and the sections which precede it, I cannot myself see that merely for the purpose of putting the law in force against any particular individual, there was any necessity for this section at all. As far as I can see, the powers of a Magistrate under the law, if he suspects any person of having committed any particular offence, are ample without having any recourse to this section. Therefore the enquiry, or inquest as it is sometimes called, must be to inform either the officers of Government, or the public at large as to what has really occurred, or is suspected to have occurred. Now I am by no means prepared to say that, as a matter of policy, more would be gained than lost by the publication of the result of the inquiry. We may no doubt imagine cases in which it is very desirable that the result should be published, but we may also imagine cases in which it would be most injurious even to private individuals if the result were published. I only say this to show that I approach the consideration of the language of the section without being able to discover any strong reasons of policy in favor of either one construction or the other, and therefore though we may look to the policy of an act as one of our guides in its construction, there is really nothing here to indicate what that policy is." If the law is not explicit, it is not the fault of the public. But what the public do not understand is this. One bench of the High Court had held that the enquiry was judicial. Mr. Stevens had we must do him the justice to say all along maintained that the proceedings of Mr. Skrine were not judicial, and that therefore his report was not a judicial document. Now, as Mr. Justice Markby remarks, "the Sessions Judge of Nuddea reported the matter to this Court, and another Bench of this Court, after having heard the Legal Remembrancer on the subject, came to the conclusion that the proceedings taken by Mr. Skrine, the Magistrate who held the inquiry, were proceedings under section 135, and that they were judicial proceedings. They did not, however, order the proceedings to be sent to the Sessions Judge of Nuddea, but sent for those proceedings themselves, and an order was issued that the record of the proceedings under section 135 should be sent up to this Court." Justices Markby and Prinsep do not deny that the first Bench was correct in holding that the proceedings of Mr. Skrine, were judicial, but propound the extraordinary opinion that though the proceedings were judicial, the report was not a judicial document, and that Mr. Stevens was therefore perfectly justified in withholding it. This reminds us of the old story of *adha dood adha pani*, half milk and half water. The Magistrate may set on foot judicial proceedings, but he may if he chooses give them an executive character at his pleasure by writing a "report" and not a "judgment." The immediate result of the "report" of Mr. Skrine was the committal of two witnesses on a charge of making false statements before a public officer, but when the report was challenged, the defence set up was that it was not a "judicial document." In other words a Magistrate, possessing the double character of judicial and executive officer, may whenever he likes don this suite of clothes or that, and can thus elude the grasp of justice and avoid public scrutiny and criticism. If this is the law, and we are bound to assume that it is so, when two honorable and learned Judges of the High Court have so declared, it is we must confess a most extraordinary law, and the sooner it is amended the better. It is bad enough that in this country the functions of the judicial and executive officers are united in the same person, but it becomes a positive evil when it is left to the discretion of the officer concerned to defeat the ends of justice by assuming one character or the other as his own caprice and temper may lead him to.

THE MASTER AND SERVANTS BILL.

MR. WHITLEY STOKES' ambition for legislative innovations has received a rude check. The Transfer of Property Bill has been practically recast. The amended Bill presents an altogether new face. The loud protest of Sir Richard Garth, and the searching criticisms of the new legal members of the Supreme Legislative Council have had a tremendous effect upon him, and he has quietly yielded to them. There has also been a consensus of opinion against the Master and Servant's Bill, and Mr. Stokes has accordingly abandoned his old scheme. All the local Governments have in more or less strong terms protested against this Bill. Thus the Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government says that "in the opinion of His Excellency the Hon'ble the Governor in Council the Bill is not one, which he thinks it would be expedient to pass into an Act of the Legislature." The Secretary to the Madras Government reports :

"His Grace in Council has attentively read this Bill and the reports which have been received. He has considered the Bill as a whole, and is of opinion that such legislation would be mischievous and is uncalled for. It will give the servants no additional security against ill treatment if in the hands of bad masters; it will give the master no greater control than the law now gives, when such control is necessary. It will lead to litigation and dispute, when litigation is most mischievous: will constitute an additional member of petty officers to prey upon and plunder servants; and will give to such officers an arbitrary power of depriving any would be servant of his means of obtaining employment by refusing to insert upon or removing the name from the register.

The taxation, even in the shape of fees, will become grievous to many. The advantages to either employer or employed will prove to be theoretical and visionary. The more free from legislative interference or restriction the relations of employer and employed remain, the more harmonious will be their relations.

The Lieutenant Governor of the N. W. P. remarks :

"There is a consensus of opinion that the rules relating to domestic service are wholly unsuited to the relations that exist between Native masters and their servants.

As to the registration of domestic servants of Europeans, Messrs. Quinton and Ricketts are alone among the officers consulted in considering that it deserves a trial. Other officers are strongly opposed to it, Mr. Copper remarking that it is the tyranny of theory, and that, from the servant's point of view, it is sufficiently condemned by the exemption of servants born in Europe, America or Australia. "The exemption," he continues, "is probably judicious, as in plain English these latter would not stand it."

On the whole, popular opinion is very decidedly against the Bill, which is regarded as legislation for legislation's sake.

To the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner the Bill seems to offend against the cardinal principles of sound and reasonable legislation, which he takes to be that the law should not greatly outrun the needs of Society, that it should only provide for acknowledged wants, and that it should be based on the usage of Society so far as such usage is not repugnant to reason, morality, and public policy. Instead of providing a remedy for crying evils, the Bill will, His Honor fears, create friction and do much mischief.

The relations of Native masters and servants are a subject on which the ignorance of Europeans, even those who have been long in the country, may be said to be profound. They are regulated by an unwritten but well understood and generally accepted law which works well, and it is rarely that cases come before our courts of the kind for which the draft Bill is meant to provide. To substitute for this a Code of rules based on the principles accepted by Societies that are organised in a totally different manner, is a proceeding that must be productive of mischievous results, and it is especially impolitic in the case of Native masters and their domestic servants.

In making the above remarks, His Honor trusts he will not be held to have exceeded the bounds of legitimate criticism. For if he did not speak plainly, and the state of things which he fears would follow the passing of this act were thereby brought to pass, the Government of India would, he thinks, have just grounds for complaining that they had not been fully warned, and Sir George Couper regards the consequences of introduction of this law into these Provinces with feelings which are not far short of dismay. As these are his views, he would beg to be allowed in conclusion to express a hope that, if the Bill generally is to become law in its present shape, there may be a section empowering Local Governments to use their discretion as to the time when it shall be brought into force.

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal says:

"The Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the Bill is ill-suited to the existing condition of native society throughout India, and to the relations of masters and servants in the country; that it will be very mischievous in its effects, and that it is not called for. Mr. Eden thinks that contracts of the sort which the Bill proposes to deal with, are much better left to be regulated by mutual agreement. If a wrong is done by master to servants, or *vice versa*, the courts are now quite competent to give compensation. The people who complain of the difficulty of managing their servants are generally bad masters.

In the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor the proposed law will be extremely unpopular.

If the Government of India is, however, of opinion that the Bill should be proceeded with His Honor thinks that, at any rate, Chapter X, providing for the registration of domestic servants should be entirely omitted, and the local extent clause (section I) altered so as to admit at first of the tentative introduction of the new law into the presidency towns, large cantonments, and a few selected towns in the interior.

The British Indian Association thus commented upon the Bill:

"The Committee are humbly of opinion that a Bill of this description ought to be founded on the usages and customs of the country to which it is made applicable. The relations between master and servant in every civilized country are the growth of years, and any legislation which contemplates radical alterations in them cannot but shake the foundations on which they rest. If there are defects which the community recognize, or abuses from which they suffer, it is certainly the duty of the Legislature to correct those defects and abuses. But the present Bill proposes a new Code for the master and servant in this country, which will not only disturb their existing relations, but introduce conditions and complications which, as your memorialists think, will be seriously detrimental to the social well-being of the people. For instance, section 3 defines a "domestic servant" to be one who does household work within one's house or compound. But there are domestic servants, such, for instance, as malis, paiks, grass-cutters and others, who do out-door work, and who, though in every sense domestic servants, will not come within the definition given, inasmuch as they do not always do household work within the master's house or compound. The result will be that one set of servants will be placed under restrictions, leaving another free, and nothing is more detrimental to harmony of work than dissimilarity of treatment under similar circumstances. The trouble entailed on people by the sudden refusal of duty by a grass-cutter or paik is quite as great as that by a saice; but by the proposed law one is let free, and the other brought under its provisions. Then section 7, clause (*a*), says that a household servant is presumed to be hired for a month, and the contract is terminable, on the part of either master or servant, by fifteen days' notice of his intention to put an end to the service, or by payment or tender of fifteen days' wages in advance This notice of fifteen days is not customary in this country. The result of this rule, your memorialists fear, would be that the servant would always have an advantage over the master. If the servant leaves without giving notice, the master may be utterly unable to enforce the law against him; for it will be difficult for him to discover the whereabouts of the servant, whereas it will always be easy for the servant to enforce the law against the master. Even if the master does succeed in dragging the servant into Court, he may not after all recover anything, inasmuch as in nine cases out of ten the servant will have little to satisfy his claim, not to say that recourse to a Court of law against a servant is repugnant to Native feeling. Thus this rule will be one-sided in its operation.

The provisions for the registration of servants are totally unsuited to the circumstances of Native society, and the trouble, labour, inconvenience and harassment which they will entail will be such as to neutralize the benefits of registration. It will place in the hands of the police an engine of annoyance, extortion and oppression. Brahman women of genteel family are generally employed as cooks. Such persons from the mufassal are perfectly unsophisticated, and totally incapable of getting themselves registered; many of them would rather die of starvation than appear before a Registering-officer to obtain a Pocket-register. A Brahman woman in a respectable family is generally treated with some respect, and is looked upon as a member of the family, and the degradation of servitude is therefore not at all felt. But the registration will undo this, and no woman of any genteel family would like to submit to the degradation. Her action may be prompted only by prejudice, but the prejudice exists and a legislative enactment cannot undo it; and the consequence will be that many widows will be debarred the source of earning an honest livelihood.

Your Excellency in Council cannot be unaware that domestic servants are treated by Natives as members of the household, and in old families they are known to have served from generation to generation. Although your memoralists are aware that of late the demeanour of domestic servants, even in Native families, has changed for the worse, still they are convinced that if the proposed Bill be extended to them, the evil, far from abating, will grow and intensify. The Natives, whether as masters or servants, are as a rule loth to go to Court for the enforcement of their mutual obligations; they generally trust to each other's good feeling and forbearance; but the proposed Bill will force them to litigation, and the harmony which upon the whole now exists between Native masters and servants will be rudely shaken."

Mr. Stokes has amended the Bill, and exempted the domestic and agricultural servants of Hindus, Mahomedans and Buddhists. But the new Bill is still open to serious objections. For our part we think that Mr. Stokes will do well to withdraw the Bill altogether.

THE PRESS, PRIVILEGE, AND PARTY.

THE murder of the Earl of Leitrim has given rise to great excitement among Irishmen. In the House of Commons, on April 12, Mr. O'Donnell rose to call attention to the action of the Government in Donegal with reference to the murder of the late Lord Leitrim, and to move:—"That it is unconstitutional, unsuited to promote the ends of justice, and calculated to foster disbelief in the impartiality of the law." He had just commenced his observations in support of his motion, when

Dr. Kenealy claimed precedence for a motion he had on the paper with reference to the privileges of members.

The Speaker said the hon. and learned member was not in his place when his motion was called on and was therefore out of order.

Dr. Kenealy,—Then I move the adjournment of the House.

The Speaker,—The hon. member for Dungarvan is addressing the House.

Mr. O'Donell then proceeded to put a supposititious case to the House in support of his motion. Supposing an outrage had taken place in Cumberland, he said, in the midst of a population conspicuous for their law abiding virtues and for their patient industry and supposing that a landlord accompanied by his servants had been suddenly attacked in a lonely part of the country and ruthlessly murdered with his servants such an occurrence would have rivetted the attention of England. If upon inquiry it was found that this part of the country although conspicuous for the absence of crime had for years been oppressed by the landlord through the lamentable shortcomings of the English land laws and had been exposed to all the tyranny and moral torture it was in the power of an iron will and reckless passion to exercise if it was known on inquiry that the villages and the valleys had been cleared and that over all was hanging the doom of eviction; if it was known that in spite of all that the relations between the landlord and his Cumberland tenantry had never been stained by one excess of an agrarian character on the side of that unfortunate tenantry; if it was further ascertained that the only case in which the Cumberland landlord had previously been exposed to attempted assassination was when the uncle of an humble peasant girl whom he had dishonoured had attempted his life it would have flashed on the mind of every Englishman that it was in the highest degree unlikely that this innocent peasantry had entered into any wide conspiracy of an agrarian character.

Sir A. Gordon protested against the manner in which the hon. member was addressing the House.

Mr. Parnell asked the Speaker to protect the liberty of speech in the House.

Mr. O'Donnell, continuing said, when it was known that that crime against the village maiden was not an isolated instance of debauchery (cries of "Oh, oh," and "Order."—

Mr. K. Harman rose to order and asked whether the hon. member was speaking of matters of which he had any proof,

Dr. Kenealy said there seemed to be an attempt to interfere with the freedom of Parliamentary speech (no no.)

The Speaker said the terms used by the honourable member in possession of the House were certainly very strong but he was not prepared to say he was not within his right.

Mr. O'Donnell said he wished as far as possible to bring the broad questions to be considered before the House and in doing so he had taken a sort of imaginary case. When he had finished the House would be able to find out whether the case applied elsewhere than in Cumberland. Supposing that this landlord by means of the power given him by his position perpetrated outrages of the kind he had mentioned and the fact was commented on in the public Press and denied nowhere—that the landlord—a bad earl—gave to poor peasant girls the alternative of eviction or dishonour (great uproar), and carried out his infamous threat———

Mr. K. Harman said he felt bound to call attention to the fact that strangers were present.

The Speaker said the hon. member having called attention to the fact that strangers were present he would follow the course adopted by him on a former occasion and put the question at once to the House that strangers be ordered to withdraw.

The House then divided on the question that strangers be ordered to withdraw when the numbers were:—

Ayes	57
Noes	12
Majority for ayes	45

The debate was then carried on with closed doors. Subsequently an article appeared in the *Globe* newspaper in which some comments were made on Mr. O'Donnell, the redoubted champion of the Irish Party, who made this article a question of Parliamentary privilege, and a sharp debate ensued in the House. We give below a good portion of it:

Mr. O'Donnell rose to complain of a breach of privilege committed by the *Globe* newspaper of the previous day in an article entitled "Agrarianism in Ireland," in which it was alleged that he had made in the House certain statements in which he had no grain of belief, and that he had made certain suggestions with reference to the perpetration of the frightful murder of Lord Leitrim, whereas "the only crimes of the murdered earl were that he was a landlord and a Protestant." The hon. member then read the commencement of the article of which he complained, as follows:—

"The late Lord Leitrim was weighted with two disabilities from which it seems a man is never exonerated by a portion of public opinion in Ireland. He was a landlord and he was a Protestant. Had he been a less brave and determined man he might have avoided his terrible end by moving tamely in that line in which alone Ribandism permits the rights—if they can then be called rights—of property to be enjoyed. Had he not been a 'heretic' in spite of his landlordism, he would have been allowed to be laid decently in his grave, unaccompanied by the cruel jeers and brutal jests of a ruffianly crew who have often shown before that a Protestant's last resting-place has no sanctity for them. These were simply his two faults or crimes, landlordism and Protestantism."

He would, he said, be the last to object to newspaper criticism, but there was a limit to such criticism, and the article he complained of contained this passage:—

"The facts are too clear to be contradicted with any chance of success, and we do not do Mr. O'Donnell's intelligence the injustice to suppose that he followed with one grain of belief the loathsome parable he obtruded on the House (Cheers)."

[The hon. member then brought up a copy of the newspaper in question, and the article containing the above passages was read at length by the Clerk at the table.]

Mr O'Donnell then rose, and moved "that the article in the *Globe* of the 15th inst. is a breach of the privileges of this House."

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER.—I confess, Sir, that though I listened as well as I could to the article just read by the Clerk at the table, I was not able to follow the whole of it, but it appears to me that it was an article upon the question of Ribandism and upon the agrarian system in Ireland and that it had special reference to the recent tragedy the murder of Lord Leitrim and that the object and tenour of the article was to attribute the murder to the system to which the writer refers. Undoubtedly there appeared to be a sentence in the course of the article in which reference was made to the speech of the hon member for Dungarvan the other night and the apparent intention of the writer was to set aside the explanation suggested by the hon. member as being one which it would hardly be in the opinion of the writer consistent with the intelligence of the hon. member to suppose he had believed to be the true explanation. (Cheers.) I do not understand that the tenour of the article is one that can be described as a breach of the privileges of this House. Renewed cheers.) I believe the proper course to adopt attention having been called to this matter by the hon. member would be—the House having heard the article if they take the same view as I do namely that it was in the nature for the most part of an argument upon the general subject of Ribandism and that the sentence so introduced was one of a casual character—that the House had better adopt the amendment which I am about to propose which is "that the House do now proceed the orders of the day" (Cheers).

Mr. Newdegate said the House was bound to act in this matter with great consideration inasmuch as on the occasion referred to the Press was excluded from the House. If any error had been committed by the Press the House ought to condone it.

Sir H. James said he had no doubt that the right hon. gentleman was quite right in the course he had proposed; but it seemed to him that if the course suggested were followed it might be thought that the article was a breach of privilege and that the right hon. gentleman wished to avoid coming to a determination on the question. Now in his view this article was no breach of privilege. (Loud cheers.) He had always understood that a breach of privilege of this description consisted in a writer having libelled a member of that House in his capacity as a member of Parliament. (Hear hear.) This article was no libel whatever. (Cheers) The article contained only one reference to the member for Dungarvan and there was no other portion of that article which the member for Dungarvan could regard as other than a fair expression of the political views of the writer. The writer says:—

The facts are too clear to be contradicted with any chance of success and we do not do Mr. O'Donnell's intelligence justice to suppose that he followed with one grain of belief the loathsome parable he obtruded upon the House."

He supposed the member for Dungarvan complained that the writer of the article said he had obtruded a loathsome parable on the House? (Mr. O'Donnell.—No.) He was glad that the member for Dungarvan did not complain of that. (Loud cheers.) He did not complain of its being said that it was loathsome parable; he could not complain of that being written because in the absence of the reporters the member for Dungarvan *had severe* criticism applied before his face. (Hear hear) If the member for Dungarvan did not complain of this portion of the article as a breach of privilege, what was it that he complained of? (Hear, hear.) Was the House seriously asked to vote upon the question whether it is libellous to say that a man did not believe in a parable? (Laughter How could that be a libel? Parables were not put forward

as a statement of fact but to convey an idea of something which might or might not be believed. And this was what was complained of by the member for Dungarvan who was not very sensitive as to the language he used. (Loud cheers.) Why if this question came to a place where would be rigorously regarded what was a libel it would be found that there was not a Judge in the land who would say that in this article there was an approach to a libel. (Hear, hear.) If any person had cause of complaint it would be the member for Birmingham who was charged with having introduced a manœuvre into legislation and the member for Greenwich who was somewhat severely attacked. Of course they would take no notice of the attack and without wishing to suggest an extreme course he trusted the vote would be taken upon the main proposal. (Cheers)

Mr. O'Shaughnessy said, no one could read the article without seeing that the sting in it was directed against the member for Dungarvan who was represented as not believing in the allegation he made the other day by way of a parable against the late Earl of Leitrim. In the murder of the Earl of Leitrim was involved issues on which the entire state of Ireland depended and on which the future of Ireland would turn. The causes which led to that crime deserved to be considered with gravity, and remedies would have to be applied to those causes ("Question") in order to prevent the growth of the passions which had led to the crime. ("Question.") That was hardly the time to discuss calmly this question, and therefore he suggested to his hon, friend not to pursue the motion. He could only say—and all his Irish colleagues would say with him—that he did not believe for a moment that any assertion the member for Dungarvan had made on Friday evening was not believed in by him. (Murmurs.) He would therefore appeal to his hon. friend, having regard to the grave questions involved and forgetting his own dignity (laughter), to withdraw the motion.

Mr. Downing said there were imputations in the article which he for one, as an Irish member representing one of the largest counties, repelled with indignation. The hon. member read a portion of the extract given above from the article which was received with cheers. He was proceeding to comment on the article, when

Lord J. Manners rose to order. He desired to know whether it was competent to discuss the whole of the article or only that portion of it which was alleged to have been a breach of privilege.

The Speaker,—The House is engaged upon a discussion of a portion of an article in the newspaper, and it is that particular portion which is alleged to be a breach of privilege. Undoubtedly the discussion ought to be confined to that question.

Mr. Downing said he should be sorry to infringe the rules of the House, but the whole of the article having been read, he thought he was entitled to refer to it. There were in Ireland Protestant landlords who were as much respected and beloved as if they were Roman Catholics. ("Oh!" and "Hear, hear.")

Mr. Dillwyn said he should like to know precisely what the order was with regard to the article and the mode in which they should deal with it or a portion of it.

The Speaker said the only question before the House was the complaint of the hon. member, and any debate on the question at large would be clearly out of order.

Mr. O'Donnell said he complained that he was accused of making certain statements in the House without having a ground for believing in them; that was the breach of privilege; and it was aggravated when it was suggested that he ought to have given as the true reason for the murder of the Earl of Leitrim that he was a landlord and a protestant.

Mr. Parnell rose to support the motion of his hon. friend. The hon. and learned member for Taunton said the imputation that a member did not believe in the statements he made was not a libel.

Sir H. James rose to order. The imputation was not that the hon. member did not believe statements, but that he did not believe a parable, which was a very different thing ("Oh," and "Hear hear.")

Mr. Parnell said that was a legal quibble. ("Order.")

The Speaker said the expression used was out of order.

Mr. Parnell withdrew it and substituted legal opinion, and this legal opinion of the hon. and learned member was worthy of the ingenuity of a petty sessions attorney, but not of the hon. and learned gentleman's position and ability. The hon. member for Dungarvan put forward certain statements, but because he put them in the form of a parable they were to be treated as untrue, as if some of the most important truths of religion had not been taught in the form of parables. The article was a libel upon and a misrepresentation of the Irish nation; and that was an aggravation of the offence committed against an individual member of Parliament, and the plea put forward that the Press was excluded from the House on the occasion of the recent debate, instead of being an extenuation, was an aggravation of the libel. Some account of the secret session appeared in most newspapers, *The Times* alone having the discretion to refrain from reporting it. Although he voted against the exclusion of the Press, he thought the decision of the House to sit in secret was not respected by the publication of partial accounts of the proceedings.

The Speaker said the hon. member was wandering from the question before the House.

Mr. Parnell said he was answering the suggestion of the hon. member for North Warwickshire that the House should show consideration because the Press were excluded the other evening.

Mr. Pell rose to order, and contended that the hon. member was still disregarding the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Sullivan objected to an hon. member who had risen to order making a speech.

The Speaker said the hon. member was in possession, and must not be interrupted.

Mr. Pell continued that the hon. member had persisted in recurring adroitly to a subject that had been ruled out of order.

Mr. O'Conner Power protested against the interruption to which the hon. member was subjected. He was perfectly in order in apologizing to the Chair for the digression into which he had been led by the remarks of the hon. member for North Warwickshire.

Mr. Parnell said that was what he was endeavouring to do and the only reason why he was out of order was that he was answering the remarks of the hon. member for North Warwickshire based on the exclusion of the Press. The hon. and learned member for Taunton gave his advice with a great deal of that self-confidence which he often exhibited in assuming the leadership of the front Opposition bench. The hon. and learned member said there was no breach of privilege unless a member was libelled by the Press; but in Sir Erskine May's work it was distinctly stated that wilful misrepresentation of the proceedings of members of the House was an offence of the same character as libel and could be punished as such. Therefore it was also a breach of privilege on the authority of this work, the study of which he commended to the hon. and learned member. The papers never attacked English members in the way they attacked Irish members, and the question was whether the House would protect Irish members or whether it would not. He did not care whether it did or not, but the Irish members were entitled to have the question settled. Instead of moving a direct negative, the hon. and learned member for Taunton met the motion by the previous question, thus preventing the House from saying whether the article complained of was or was not a libel, and whether the English newspapers were to be allowed to libel the Irish members with impunity ("Oh, oh.") He knew very well what was the feeling of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. On more than one occasion he had put in motion the machinery of the House against Irish members ("Order, order.")

The Speaker.—I must ask the hon. member for Meath to confine himself strictly to the question before the House. (Hear.)

Mr. Parnell was surely at liberty to condemn the conduct of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in moving an amendment which, like that of the hon. and learned member for Taunton, would get rid of the matter by passing to the order of the day. He could not too strongly condemn such a step. Why did not the Chancellor of the Exchequer take what was called an English course and move a direct negative, so that the House would have the opportunity of declaring whether the paragragh complained of in the motion of the hon. member for Dungarvan was libel or not?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he had no right to speak again; but by way of explanation, he might say that he had moved the amendment with this view—he did not think it was at all necessary for the House, under the circumstances brought forward by the hon. member for Dungagarvan, to go into any discussion as to whether these words were to be considered a breach of privilege or whether the case was one on which it would be well to pronounce any opinion. Looking to the general character of the article, the House ought not to be called on to assert the machinery of privilege against the writer. (Hear, hear.) He thought the proper course was—whether the words used had or had not a certain meaning—the House should not entertain the question, but pass to the order of the day. (Hear, hear.)

The question was put and negatived. The debates we notice above are not without a moral. How the freedom of speech is protected in England, and how every British subject is enabled to assert his own rights and liberty will be seen from the resoluteness with which the Irish Party determined to make themselves heard. If natives of India, connected with public bodies, were to shew a hundredth part of the tenacity to their legitimate rights and privileges, where would they be? Are not the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta threatened with extinction because they have given some evidence of political life and independence?

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE following is the latest intelligence from Europe.

London 18th May.—Notwithstanding the pacific tone of the news from St. Petersburgh the Russians continue massing troops nearer to Constantinople and the Bosphorus. The Russians are advancing on Gumulwina near to Gallipoli. The *Daily News* states that General Todleben has sent an ultimatum to the Porte, demanding the evacuation of Shumla, Varna and Batoum or the Russians will occupy Boyukdere. A serious riot among strikers has taken place at Preston and Great Harwood with much violence. The military interfered and succeeded in dispersing the people without using their arms.

Constantinople 18th May Russian head-quarters remain at San Stefano. The Russian army at San Stefano with the exception of a few Companies has moved northwards.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy has received from Her Majesty the Queen a telegram conveying Her great satisfaction at the loyal and spontaneous offers of troops, which have been made by many princes and chiefs of India.

WE ARE glad to learn that Babu Doorga Churn Law has been elected a Governor of the Mayo Hospital in the room of Maharaja Romanath Tagore deceased.

AS AN example of the ravages of the epidemic fever we record this fact for the edification of Government. The reader has doubtless heard the name of the great Pundit Jagannath Turkopanchanun of Tribeni, who was the Pundit or Hindu law assessor of the late Supreme Court. Fifteen years ago his family numbered about 150 persons, but in consequence of the devastations of the epidemic fever, his grandson tells us it is reduced to six souls! How many families in the districts of Hooghly and Burdwan can tell the same sad tale of the havoc committed by the fell fever! Mr. Eden has not moved too soon in the matter.

THE RAJA OF POOREE is doomed. He has been convicted by the highest tribunal in the country, and must undergo the sentence of transportation for life passed on him. No right-minded man will question the justice of the sentence. Here was a prince, who was looked up to by his people as the incarnation of the Deity on earth, who was their spiritual lord and protector of the sanctity of the temple of the national Divinity, and he in a fit of distemper caused a priest, a holy and revered person, to be subjected to a series of tortures of the most barbarous and filthy description, which ultimately deprived him of his life. It was a most revolting crime, for which he has been rightly punished. One thing, however, is not clear, we mean the motive which led him to this abominable deed. From what we hear of the Raja's temper, habits, and associations he seems to be a man, whose mind cannot be altogether sound. It is a pity that the Counsel for the Raja instead of trying to set up ingenious pleas in defence did not urge this circumstance for the mitigation of the sentence. Transportation for life for such a man means death in no long time. Now that the majesty of law has been vindicated cannot justice be tempered with mercy? The Hindu community of Orissa feel deeply the humiliation they have suffered in the person of their spiritual head. They do not question the justice of the sentence, but they would feel grateful if the sentence were commuted to a simple imprison ment for a few years. They are inclined to think that chastened by this punishment he may come back to the bosom of his family a reformed man. There is a strong feeling among the Oryas on this subject, and we consider it our duty to give expression to it. For our part we think that the commutation of the sentence not so much for the sake of the Raja as for that of the Hindu community of Orissa would not be a misuse of the prerogative of the Crown. It will afford to them a signal proof that our Government is both just and merciful.

IT AFFORDS us great pleasure to record another instance of the princely benefactions of Babu Kallykissen Tagore. Dr. Sircar's Science Association is now fairly established. It has got a funded capital of about Rs. 60,000, and a monthly income of about Rs. 250 from subscriptions; it has received a house from Government; it has secured weekly lectures on three important subjects, Physics, Electricity and Chemistry; it has regular classes for these lectures, the bulk of the students being passed graduates of the University, teachers of schools, and private students of mature age. Of the lecturers it is enough to say that Father Lafont and Dr. Mahendralal Sircar are among them. We do not believe that there is now in India a more learned and happier lecturer on Science than Father Lafont. Dr. Sircar's knowledge of electricity is best illustrated by his recent discovery, which has called forth the approbation and admiration of the first scientific weekly paper of France. Babu Taraprossunno Roy is also well versed in his own subject. One great drawback, which hinders the operations of the lecturers, is the want of a good and well furnished laboratory. The lecturers have to bring their own instruments or to borrow them in order to illustrate their own lectures. The Association cannot in consequence of the conditions made by the Government for the grant of the house draw upon the funded capital for the purchase of instruments. But thanks to the enlightened and princely benefaction of Babu Kallykissen Tagore this want of the Association will be now removed. This Peabody of Bengal, who had originally subscribed Rs. 2,500 towards the establishment of the Association, seeing its usefulness, has now offered to it the munificent sum of a quarter of a lac of rupees in order to enable it to command a fairly complete laboratory for its own use. He has also subscribed Rs. 300 annually for the support of the institution. The Association cannot feel too thankful to Babu Kallykissen Tagore for, and we cannot too highly admire, this princely generosity. One peculiar feature of Babu Kallykissen's

liberality is that it is as discriminating as it is munificent. Would that others, whom God has blessed with princely fortunes, had been gifted with an equally noble heart! Babu Kallykissen does not let his left hand know what his right hand does; otherwise we could have given a list of his charities, which it would do one good even simply to know and contemplate. May God grant him long life and may he continue to benefit society by the fertilizing showers of his charity!

FOR THE past few weeks we have had peculiar weather. Rain, storm and hail have been of frequent occurrence in greater part of the country. The Meteorological Reporter gives the following account of the weather: "The observations taken at the Alipore Observatory, show the mean temperature of the 7 days ending the 11th instant to have been 78·2, the average temperature of the corresponding period for 25 years having been 85·1. The total fall of rain from the 5th to 11th instant was 5·35 inches, as compared with 1·09, the average fall of the corresponding period for 25 years. The total fall from the 1st January last to the 11th instant, was 13·85 inches, the average fall of the corresponding period for 25 years being 6·53 inches." The result of this abnormal condition of the weather has been the great prevalence of fever, cholera and small-pox. The effects upon the crops have been also most injurious. Both the *Boro* and *Aus* have suffered, the preparation of the ground for *amun* is retarded, sugarcane has been injured, and vegetables and fruits have seriously suffered. The outlook of the year does not seem to be promising.

WE HAVE received the following account of a meeting of the Hooghly zemindars on Saturday last on the question of the reclamation of the rivers of the district:

"The meeting of the Zemindars of Hooghly called by Mr. Pellew on Saturday last was a decided success. In an impressive speech Mr. Pellew gave to the meeting the history of the question of the supply of Damoda water into some of the rivers in the district, showed how curious was the coincidence of the date of the stoppage of that supply and of the outbreak of the epidemic fever in the district, and explained the advantages which the landholders and the people would derive by the liberal grant by Government of Rs. 20,000 for the construction of a sluice at Selimabad. About Rs. 7,000 were subscribed on the spot by the following gentlemen among others to meet the expenses of clearing the beds of silted up rivers.

F. H. Pellew Esq., C.S.	... ...	Rs. 300
Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerjee, Ootterpara	... ...	1000
„ Chunder Kant Mookerjee, Jonye	... ...	1000
„ Raj Kissen Mookerjee, Ootterpara	... ...	500
„ Hurry Hur Mookerjee, Ootterpara	... ...	500
„ Juggessur Sing, Bhastara	... ...	500
The Mohunt of Tarkessur	... ...	500
Baboo Anurup Chunder Mookerjee, Jonye	... ...	500
„ Mau Gobind Biswas, Dusghora	... ...	350
„ Hem Chunder Mookerjee Jonye	... ..	250
„ Lal Behary Dutt, Chinsura	... ...	250
„ Nundo Lall Mookerjee, Jonye	... ...	250
„ Bejoy Kissen Mookerjee, Ootterpara	... ...	200

OUR ASSAM Correspondent writes as follows:

Some time during 1876 you gave a leader on the loss some of the Goalpara Zemindars were made to suffer on account of the new boundaries settled for the Garo Hills District. Roy Protap Chundra Barua of Gauripur has brought a civil suit claiming compensation of above 3 lacs of Rupees which case has now been withdrawn by the Roy Bahadoor on the Deputy Commisioner of Goalpara giving him an assurance in *writing* that the Governor-General in Council will annually pay him in the *Goalpara District* about 7,000 Rs. as rent of the lands incorporated with the Garo Hills District. On very similar grounds Baboos Tilokram Choudhwri and brothers.—Zemindars of Lakhipur brought a suit for compensation of about 12 lacs of Rupees and are likely to compromise the case on the Deputy Commisioner's furnishing the Zemindars with the Government of India's authority empowering the Deputy Commissioner to settle the case on Her Majesty's behalf. If this case is settled out of Court both the Exchequer and the zemindars will be saved of much unnecessary expenditure. The Government of India have acted wisely by avoiding litigation.

WE ARE requested to draw attention to an advertizement in another column of the Superintendent General of Vaccination regarding the steps he proposes to take to stamp out the epidemic. The appeal which he makes to educated and public-spirited native gentlemen for co-operation will, we hope, receive a ready response from them. The rains it would seem have aggravated the disease. The last return gives the number of deaths from small-pox at 105. If the present state of the weather continues, Dr. Charles apprehends that the epidemic may run into the cold season. It is therefore of the utmost importance that vaccination should be extended as widely as possible. But we are of opinion that without the aid of law the Vaccine Department will not meet with much success. As we said in a previous issue the time has arrived to make vaccination compulsory. Has the Superintendent General been able to keep reliable statistics of the present epidemic of small-pox in Calcutta, that is to say what has been the percentage of cure or death among protected and unprotected persons? The necessary information ought to be forthcoming, if the Superintendent General of Vaccination and the Health-Officer of Calcutta should co-operate.

SOME COMPLAINTS have been brought to our notice regarding the manner in which the recent orders of Government for the abolition of Rural Registry offices are being carried out. We have always been doubtful as to the benefit of the system of Rural Registry offices, which in many cases yielded very small incomes to the Sub-Registrars and consequently exposed them to temptation. But we are informed that contrary to the spirit of the Government orders Registry Offices are being abolished, which used to yield a fair income, and consequently placed the officer above temptation, and that ill-paying offices are being kept on. For example the Sub-Registry office at Chaitungram in the Bogra District has larger income than that at Panchbibi, but the former has been closed and the latter retained. Again, there are two insignificant rural offices at Keshpore and Gopalpore in the Midnapore district; these have been retained, while the office at Egra in the same district, which was a paying one, has been abolished. There is another point in connection with the abolition of the last named office, which calls for remark. The Rural Sub-Registrar was ordered for the better security of the records to build a pucca-house for his office. The Registrar is not a very well-to-do man, but he put himself to the expense of building a house in order to retain his place, which yielded him an income that was a matter of consideration for him. Now the poor man has lost his place, and is out of pocket of some hundreds of rupees, which he can ill-afford to lose. Does not justice require that some compensation should be given to him? One mode or perhaps the easiest mode of compensating him would be to provide him with an appointment elsewhere, but as matters are being now managed he has no hope in that way. Vacancies in Rural Sub-Registry Offices are now-a-days generally given away to Head-Clerks of Head-Offices or other favorites. While on this subject may we ask why no steps are taken to secure records in Registry offices which are accommodated at the expense of Government and not at that of the Sub-Registrars? The Julpiguri Office was the other day burnt down to ashes. All the records are gone. Many persons whose wills were deposited there are complaining bitterly of the destruction of their testaments. Was the necessity of building a pucca-house for this offices or of similar offices never urged upon the Government? The surplus of the Registration fees ought to be applied to this purpose.

SOME WEEKS ago we published an account of the resuscitation into life of a woman at Chundernagore who had been thrown into the river as dead. It would appear that subsequently this case came before Court, and the facts are clearly set forth in the judgment of Mr. Grant, Sessions Judge of Hooghly. The husband and three others, who were tried by the Hooghly Court for drowning the woman, have been acquitted by the Jury on the ground that they had acted innocently. We hope the services of the doctor, who saved the life of the woman by a most daring heroism, will be recognised by Government.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Furreedpore dated the 16th instant:

Mukundpore in Furreedpore.
The 16th May. 1878.

Permit me through the columns of your well-known paper to give publicity to the extreme distress to which the people of this district,—and especially of this Thana—have been reduced on account of the exorbitantly high price of rice, which, though of the coarsest kind, is being sold here eight seers per rupee. Both the middle and the cultivating classes are in great distress owing to this famine price for rice. By the loss of their harvest last year, and the prevalence of a very high price of rice throughout this year, the resources of the people of this Thana, who are generally poor and agriculturists by profession, have been well nigh exhausted. A greater portion even of the middle jotedar class can hardly afford to get one meal a day. The poor cultivating class, who have so long eked out their existence by subsisting at times upon fish, tortoise-flesh and vegetable productions, are now in actual struggle for life. The *ous* crop, the harvest time of which is very near, is now their only hope; but if this fails, it may be that most of the poor men will succumb to death. This distress may be a little mitigated if Government would compel the merchants, who have this year made large profits by scarcity, to sell rice at a reasonably lower price.

The head constable of this Thanna, who has, whilst he was in the Mofussil on duty, witnessed the sufferings of the people, has lately reported this sad state of things to the District Superintendent of Police for the information of the Magistrate.

Yours &c.,
NILRATAN ROYCHOWDRY.

THE LONDON LETTERS of the *Civil and Military Gazette* sometimes contain spicy accounts of doings in and about London. Some of the recent communications of the London Correspondent of our contemporary are delectable reading. The writer gives the following racy account of a meeting of certain Indians against the Vernacular Press Act in the Victoria Hall at Kensal Green. The mob had filled the Hall before the Indians arrived, but they were according to the writer greatly disappointed. They had an impression that all Indians were live Princes, but what a disappointment! We give the account in the words of the correspondent:

"Neither feathers nor paint neither gold embroidery nor muslin turbans but about half a dozen of attenuated darkies, dressed in the ordinary costume of civilised Englishmen. The vulgar portion of the audience became derisive. "O'le Joe krekin up ahind and afore" and other ribald remarks of that sort were addressed to the illustrious Asiatics, who, sooth to say, looked somewhat nervous, and more than half inclined to bolt. "Chune up, Sambo!" was now the cry, and in response to this appeal a "Prince" stepped to the front and in a reedy, treble voice, began to orate. This was the great Mr. Tagore and very important things came from his lips when he became thoroughly warmed to his work. He commenced by imploring the meeting to put aside all passion and prejudice, for as Dr. Watts beautifully remarked—Here a beery voice called down the revere of blessings on the head of Dr. Watts—and requested the orator to "spit out anythink he'ad to say and be condemned to him," Thus adjured the great Mr. Tagore cautioned his friends against futile declamation about liberty "and things of that sort, you know, which have no connection with the matter in hand, although as the immortal bard of Avon"—Again the beery voice interrupted with a suggestion that the speaker had better "stow the h'immortal bard of h'Avon and go on with his jawr." Shakespeare was accordingly "stowed" for the occasion, and Mr. Tagore dropping the poets as being "caviare to the general" plunged *in medias res*. He would premise that being a barrister of Gray's Inn, he could not engage in anything which might affect the stability of the British Empire. No; whatever happened, he would not thus repay the hospitality he had received from that glorious pillar of the British constitution, the Bar of England. "Bar? Wot bar?" inquired the beery one, rousing up from an alcoholic slumber, "if yer means at the Pig and Whistle I'm yer man for a pint or a quart." Not heeding this unseemly offer, Mr. Tagore went on to declare that liberty was the birthright of all English subjects, wherever born, and that he for one, was prepared to shed the last drop of his—"ink" granted the beery one—in defence of that precious privilege. It could not be endured for a second that the invaluable boon which made the natives of India feel proud of the name of Englishmen—"thank'ee for nothing" quoth a publican deficiently—it could not be endured that this inestimable patrimony was to be stolen away, he might even say filched, nay appropriated would not be too strong a term by the tyranny of the officials in India. He would go to the stake—"perhaps your blessed mamma did, old boy" is the unfeeling suggestion of a medical student—he would willingly, even cheerfully go to the stake—"and ingins my bloater; dont forget the ingins!" from the beery one—for did not Sir Charles Metcalfe declare that it was not sound policy to exercise a stringent censorship over the Press, and if so great a man as Sir Charles—"who the'ed was he comes welling up from the body of the audience, in a growling chorus, and then such an uproar takes place that Mr. Tagore thinks it best to gracefully subside in his seat. But Sir Charles Metcalfe was too eminent an authority on the matter in hand to be thus summarily disposed of. Mr. Dhairgava forthwith gets on his hind legs, and takes up the thread of the argument, by indignantly asking whether the sons of Ind, who had enjoyed a free Press even under the crushing tyranny of Leadenhall Street, were to be disenfranchised, disestablished, disendowed by the benign rule of Buckingham Palace? Would they, he demanded to know, be such

crawling Helots as to present the other cheek to the smiter? "No fear of being kissed old' untill yer washes yerself a bit whiter" is the exclamation of a coalheaver at this juncture, and the audience take up the by joke howling a stave of a negro melody, touching on darkness of complexion. Mr. Dhairgava accordingly thinks it judicious to cut his eloquence short by proposing a resolution to the effect that "this meeting regards with indignation and detestation the late introduction of a Press Gagging Act by the Indian Government." A minute young gentleman, who gave his name as Bose, briefly seconds the motion, which on being put to the meeting, is almost unanimously carried amid tumultuous enthusiasm. That is, nine-tenths of the people present bellow for the pure love of the thing, and the remainder being composed of young and giddy lads and lasses, take advantage of the opportunity to squeeze one another fondly. Thus emboldened, little Mr. Bose ventures a stout tug at the long bow by affirming that he has reason to believe the meeting has caused considerable excitement at the India office, a statement endorsed by a marvellously attenuated gentleman named Dutt. More than this, for Mr. Dutt declares that he has received promises of assistance from several members of Parliament. He even hints that the all-powerful columns of the *Daily News* will contain a full report of their proceedings that evening. Hereupon a vote of thanks in anticipation is proposed and carried to the proprietors of that journal "for its manly and outspoken utterances whenever the cause of a downtrodden race needs a champion." There must have been some misapprehension as to the gentleman who should convey this touching testimonial to Bouverie Street. For it is rumoured in literary circles that the editor of the *News* received it separately from no fewer than seven native gentlemen, each of whom wrote an elegant and ornate covering letter, lauding the nonconformist organ up to the skies, and proffering his services as a contributor to its columns. The report of the meeting appeared, however, but in such a sadly condensed form that its readers could not possibly obtain a correct notion of the vast importance of the gathering. And painful to relate, the rest of the London Press, from the *Times* downwards, took no sort of notice of the great demonstration in North Kensington against the Indian Gagging Act. I have therefore thought it advisable to send you a full, true, and particular account of the proceedings, so that Lord Lytton may feel the awful eye of Metropolitan Mesopotamia to be directed full upon him—at least a portion of its eye. Rumour says that the optics of Messrs. Tagore, Dhairgava and Co. received considerable damage, while those noble patriots were struggling to make their escape from the Victoria Hall last Friday night."

In another letter the writer gives the following description of "Laura":

The case of Swaebe *v.* Thistlethwayte is not very edifying, but a lesson or two may be learnt even from this revelation of what English society sometimes gives birth to. There is a dramatic touch about the affair which will certainly be made use of by some future Charles Reade for the purpose of "pointing a moral and adorning a tale." But to get an insight into the plot, it is requisite to carry the mind back some thirty years or more, when a certain sprightly lady with an angel face made herself well known at Dublin. Current rumour at the time accredited her with a mysterious spouse, but he was regarded as a myth at the Castle, and the military swore—they used to swear in those days—that he had no greater substantiality than Mr. Harris. Be this as it may, Dublin society of the period very soon found that the angel face was rather a lying signboard. Stories got about of married men having been utterly fleeced by placing too much trust in the profession of that sweet countenance, and there were jokes to the effect that the fair siren had a most acquisitive disposition. Thus at last, Dublin became rather warm quarters for the poor, persecuted creature, who accordingly "vamoshed" one night in the company, it was said, of a young and prosperous tradesman, who inadvertently left behind him a loving wife, too adoring infants, and an exhausted banking account. After this *escapade* the ingenuous one passed through many experiences of a more or less trying sort, before she suddenly burst upon London, as acknowledged queen of the *demi-monde*. Instantly that angel face, that innocent manner, became the rage. Dukes, earls, barons, vied with one another in the costliness of their gifts, while scandal went so far as to include a saintly bishop among the worshippers of the goddess of the hour. With imperial condescension she received their homage, and with beautiful impartiality she dispensed her favors equally among the idolatrous throng. That bump of acquisitiveness which had distinguished the grub was even more conspicuous in the butterfly. "A veritable daughter of the horse leech," said old Lord Sejanus to himself, as he filled in a cheque for £500 in her favor, being about the twentieth of the same amount that he had parted with in some three or four months. Many tales were told of her rapacity, more still of her Cleopatra-like extravagance on her toilet and personal surroundings. Was it not said that Jang Bahadoor, then the lion of London, had declared the revenues of Nepaul to be altogether insufficient for the needs of his fair friend? Then there was a good story about how she had managed to extract £50 out of a distinguished evangelical divine on the plea of wanting to settle with her tradesman before retiring from the wicked world in accordance with his advice On one occasion a leading West End trader made a sudden appearance in the Bankruptcy Court with very heavy liabilities attached to his name. The creditors naturally wanted to know how such a good business could have so swiftly come to grief a mystery which was fully explained when his banking account showed incessant payment of heavy sums to Londons ruling divinity. Thereupon the creditors rushed to the court in a body and demanded the appearance of the lady to give an account of these transactions. Where was the summons to be served? Not being people of fashion the indignant victims did not know when the presiding functionary slily suggested the expediency of "inquiring at the Nepaulese Embassy. Thus matters went on until one day an almost incredible rumour ran round the clubs that the angel face had cast such glamour over a young fellow of good position and some means as to tempt him to marry her. At first the world would not believe the absurd report; surely no man other than a starke staringlunatic could be so monstrously idiotic as to make the talk of the town his wife It very soon appeared however that the rumour was perfectly true for the angel face was no longer seen in the haunts of men, the cream-colored ponies and natty "tiger" were absent from theDrive the wives of several eminent members of society found their lords and masters become quite domestic again, two or three milliners and jewellers put up their shutters, the rate for accommodation" at Messrs. Shadrach, Mesheck and Co. fell once more to sixty per cent and there was general repentance from Bond Street to Eaton Square and Hyde Park Gardens. Thus dropped the curtain on act number one, in a certain drama of human life.

"Laura" then wedlocked and became a patron of the church and charities, but was soon tired of her forced piety: the Magdalen of Grosvenor Square soon threw penitence to the winds, gave dinners and supper parties to "men of rank and fashion," showed herself prominently to all the fastest resorts of society, and once more became the talk of the town. What did the town say about her? Well, the older generation turned away, some in pity, more in disgust, from the dreadful spectre which came before them as if from the grave, recalling memories of bitter jealousies, and infatuation, reckless extravagance. Young Lord Tom Noddy merely remarked that "he could not believe such an old hag had ever been beautiful." What a moral!

Correspondence

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN BEERBHOOM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—An Indigo case (Hara Nath Ghosa Vs. Mr. D. Mc.Ewan) tried by Mr. Trevor Grant, the Magistrate o Birbhum, was published in your issue of the 25th March last, and I beg to submit to you herewith the papers of another case tried by him with this earnest solicitation that you will be pleased to publish them *in extenso* to show how justice has grossly miscarried. To avoid lengthiness, I forbear from dwelling at length upon the detailed facts of the case and rest myself satisfied with quoting below the statement of the complainant as taken down by the Magistrate himself with his order thereon, which will clearly indicate the nature of the complaint lodged against the principal defendant Mr. D. Mc.Ewan, an assistant in the firm of Messrs. Farquharson & Co. of Elambazar and the strange judgment which has been delivered.

"Umesh Chandra Sircar son of Poresh Nath Sircar, of Jehanabad near Bejra in Thanna Shakulipur, sworn says:—

"I am *Gomosta* of Sri Narain Mitra for Mahata village. My master's tamarind garden was plundered on the 18th Falgoon by the order of Mr. McEwan who himself was present at the time. The plunderers were Zemindar Shaikh, Sonaulla Shaikh, Chota Jan Bux Shaikh, Shaik Mea Jan Khan, Hari Lal Hari and Nistarinee Harinee, My *Rakhal* came to my Katchery and told me what they were doing and I went to the garden and told Jan Bux that the trees were my master's and that he must not take the fruits. Jan Bux said he was acting on his master's (Mr. McEwan's) orders. The Saheb was sitting in his house within my sight and I called out to him to stop his servants. He said "I know what I am doing. I am taking the fruits, you may tell your master. After that I went away and told my master. This garden has been in my master's possession ever since he had the Taluq and was in possession of the former Talugdar and has never been leased to any tenant. It is not a public grave yard and there are no graves in it but only near it."

Taken by me,
(Sd.) T. J. C. Grant,
Officiating Magistrate.

16, 3, 78.

"I do not see any criminal matter in this petition. I know the garden which is by the roadside close to the factory-house. If the place is private property it seems to me that there has been only a civil trespass committed and not a criminal offence. There is a bad blood between Baboo Sri Nath and the Factory and it is to this only that I can impute the laying of this petty charge. I do not think this a case for a criminal court and reject the petition, referring the complainant to the civil court by an action for damages, if he thinks fit."

(Sd.) T. J. C. Grant,
Officiating Magistrate,

16, 3, 78.

I am at an utter loss to appreciate the soundness of the Magistrate's argument. Admitting that there is "bad blood" between the Taluqdar and the Factory, as the Magistrate says, it is not at all improbable that the latter would take coercive measures to injure the former. It was not a petty charge"—theft by night.—but a regular *plunder* deliberately committed in broad day-light as the complainant states. The Magistrate further records in his judgment that he knows the garden,—(not that it belongs to either Mr. McEwan or any other defendant),—but I am really unable to understand how his bare knowledge of the existence of the garden can exempt Mr. McEwan &c. from the heavy charge of theft and criminal trespass brought against them. A theft case being a warrant case, the Magistrate, as far as my knowledge goes, was bound under Section 215 of the C. P. C. to take the evidence of the witnesses named for the prosecution before he could pass an order of discharge. I must notice another irregularity in the proceeding of the case. While the complainant was under examination, a Muktear in the employ of Messrs. Farquharson & Co. volunteered himself to put a question to him which elicited the answer touching the "graveyard" to be found in the concluding part of his statement. The Muktar, as far as I am aware, had no power to appear for the defendant; and if it be so, I can not understand how he was allowed by the Magistrate to interfere in the matter.

The complainant, being dissatisfied with the Magistrate's order, was ready to move the High Court in the matter, but desisted from doing so on the sound opinion of one of the leading Barristers of the Calcutta Bar, which is quoted below:—

"I think that it is open to the complainant under Section 298 of the Cr: Pro: Code to move the High Court to direct the Magistrate of the District by himself or by any Subordinate Magistrate to make further enquiry into this charge."

"But at the same time I do not advise such a proceeding for this reason. Suppose the High Court does direct the Magistrate to enquire into the case and he then tries it and acquits the defendant what benefit will this be to the complainant? He may dismiss the charge on some ground that is altogether wrong but the complainant will have no appeal. The Local Government can alone appeal and it is not likely to do so."

"Unless the complainant can move effectually I would advise him to take no step."

(Sd.) J. B.

3, 4, 78.

In the Indigo case referred to above, this very Mr. Mc Ewan went scot-free on the change of criminal trespass and forcible dispossession: He has been again discharged, and I may say, more curiously. The complainant is simply directed by the Magistrate to seek redress in the Civil Court, as was done in the Indigo case too, on the allegation that the charge laid against the defendants constitutes a civil and not a criminal offence. Is not the C, P. C. applicable in Mr. Mc, Ewan's case? Lastly I beg to draw the attention of our Lieutenant-Governor to this as well as the Indigo case cited above to provide against the failure of justice as His Honor deems necessary.

I remain
Yours truly
G.

Calcutta,
12, 5, 78.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	As.	P.
Secretary Julsa Tahzeb Reform Club, Lucknow	13	4	0
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Baboo Kallyprosunno Mookerjee, Midnapore	15	0	0
„ Denonath Mookerjee, Joypore	13	8	9
„ Nilmony Nag, Durbhanga	6	10	0
„ Russunt Coomar Sen, Dacca	1	10	0
„ Dwarkanath Mookerjee, Ghatal	6	10	0
„ Pearymohun Mittra, Baranagore	5	0	0
„ Moheshchundra Banerjee, Bancoorah	10	0	0
„ Womeshchundra Roy, Sara	13	4	0
„ Kantychundra Mookerjee, Barrackpore	11	10	0
„ Bidhubhuson Palchowdhry, Latoodah	10	0	0
„ Tarrucknath Chatterjee, Bhattoorea	10	0	0
„ Jodoonath Ghose, Chittagong	10	0	0
„ Radhakissen Sen Raneegunge	13	4	0
„ Kadarnath Mookerjee Sahebgunge	20	0	0
„ Ramgoti Mookerjee Cutwa	13	4	0
„ Nishikant Banerjee Chowdhry Kaliparq	10	0	0
„ Hurrochundra Ghose Hooghly	13	4	0
„ Aghorechundra Mookerjee, Somastipore	5	0	0
„ Gopichurn Dutt, Korimgung	8	4	0
„ Norendraeeb Roy, Furreedpore	6	10	0
„ Kallyprosunno Mookerjee Nurail	10	0	0
„ Opendranath Nundi, Shagunge	12	0	0
„ Jodoonath Banerjee Jony	10	0	0
ERRATA			
Read Kristogopal Ghose Bissenpore (for Berhampore)	6	8	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*May* 15, 1878.

GENERAL.—Mr. Douglas White, Barrister-at-Law is appointed to act as Fifth Judge and Clerk of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. T. Jones, or until further orders.

In modification of the orders of the 9th March last, Mr F. R. S. Collier, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Kurigaon Division of the Rungpore district, is allowed leave for three months.

Mr. T. D. Beighton, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, on special duty, is allowed leave for three months under the Rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he availed himself of it in anticipation of sanction.

Mr. M. G. Stewart is appointed to be a member of the Committee for the management of the Zoological Gardens at Alipore.

Baboo Bhoopendra Nath Roy, Canoongo, Palamow, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, and is posted to Hazareebagh, *vice* Baboo Kastori Lall.

Mr. G. Toynbee, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Patna, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, *vice* Mr. G. M. Carrie.

Mr. R. Carstairs, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Goalundo, Furreedpore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. T. D. Beighton.

Mr. J. D. Anderson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Meherpore, Nuddea, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr R. Carstairs.

Moulvi Syed Ameer Hossein, Deputy Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

Baboo Chundra Kishore Dey is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Gobind Chunder Bysacke or until further orders, and is posted to Mymensing.

Baboo Deno Nath De, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah, is allowed leave for two months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr. R. Carstairs, Sub-Divisional Officer of Goalundo, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Section 3 of Act X (B.C.) of 1870.

Mr. H. G. Sharp, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

JUDICIAL—Baboo Hurnath Ghose, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Assam, is appointed to be a Moonsif of the Second Grade, in Bengal, and is posted to Thakoorgong, in the district of Dinagepore.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MOONSIFS.—Baboo Bhugwan Chunder Chatterjee, Second Moonsif of Jessore, is allowed privilege leave of absence for two months under Rule I, Section 31, Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Nagendro Coomar Bose, Moonsif of Kaligunge, in the district of Dacca, is allowed privilege leave of absence for six weeks, under Rule I, Section 31, Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. H. Joll, Executive Engineer, Second Grade, attached to the Circular and Eastern Canals Division, is allowed privilege leave for three months, under Civil Leave Code, Supplement F, Section 32.

Mr. D. Scott, Executive Engineer, Second Grade, from the Orissa to the Dacca Division, in the interests of the public service, on return from Madras Famine Relief Works.

Mr. T. Beatty, Executive Engineer (temporary rank), Fourth Grade, from the Orissa to the Nudden Rivers Division, in the interests of the public service, as a temporary arrangement, or until further orders.

Mr. E. S. B. Pereira, Assistant Engineer (temporary rank), First Grade, from the Bhagulpore to the Dinagepore Division, in the interests of the puplic service.

Mr. Pereira joined the latter division on the 7th April 1878, before noon.

Mr. J. C. White, Assistant Engineer, Second Grade, attached to the Burdwan Division, is allowed special leave for three months, under Public Works Code, Chapter II, IV, 28.

Mr. J. F. Maxwell, Executive Engineer, Fourth Grade, returned to duty from furlough to Europe on the 30th September 1877, before noon.

Mr. Maxwell is allowed preparatory leave from the 27th to 29th September 1878.

Baboo Poorno Chunder Sircar, Assistant Engineer (temporary rank), First Grade, from the Orissa to the Burdwan Division, in the interests of the public service.

Advertisements.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Will be published on the 7th June Kalkipuran with translation in Bengali, edited by Pundit Jaggamohuna Tarkalankara, price Rs. 2-8.

Will be published on the 15th June, Parasara Sanhita with translation in Bengali, edited by Pundit Jaggamohuna Tarkalankara, price 1 Rupee.

Orders will be registered at 15 Bosepara lane, by Jogendranath Bundopadhya.

Tuttwabodhini Putrica, early volumes 3 Rs. a year.

Bibidhartha Sangraha or Illustrated Bengali Magagine, edited by Babu Rajendralala Mittra, Vol. II. Rs. 2.

Stephen's Indian Evidence Act Rs. 3—8

Maha Nirvana Tantra, with Bengali translation Rs. 4.

Wanted to purchase one complete set of Weekly Reporter. 15, Bosepara Lane, Calcutta. JOGENDRANATHA BUNDOPADHYA

Notice.

My son Bepinbehary Mookerjee having strayed from home for some days has not been heard of. Any body giving information about him to the undersigned will be rewarded if required. The boy is little above eight years of age, of pretty fair complexion, has large eyes, a scar under the lower lip, and a limping gait, can read Bengali books and shews a fondness for reading.

GYANPROSUNNO MOOKERJEE,
Chunder Sekhur Mookerjee's Street,
Konenuggur (Hooghly).

BENGAL SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the above Association will be held at the Town Hall on Thursday the 23rd May, at 5 P. M., when Mr. H. Beverley will read a Paper on "Reformatory Schools, and the proper classes of Juvenile Criminals to be subjected to reformatory treatment."

ABDOOL LULIEF,
Honorary Secretary.

WANTED.

By the Road Cess Committee Rungpore, a District Engineer at a salary of Rs. 650 per mensem rising by annual increments to 800 per mensem exclusive of travelling allowance, which will be paid at the rate prescribed by the P. W. Code. In case of a P. W. officer his contribution besides for a pension and furlough allowances will be paid by the Committee. Qualifications required up to the standard of P. W. D. Executive Engineer. Applications with statement of qualifications to be made to the undersigned to reach not later than 10th June 1878, the appointment will take effect from 30th September 1878 and will be on probation for a year.

J. J. LIVESAY,
Chairman.

TO LET.

Premises No. 5, Kristodas Pal's Lane.
Ditto „ 25, Ditto Ditto.
Ditto „ 13, Modhoo Roy's Lane.
Apply to *Printer*.

Notice.

The Students' Hand Book of Proverbs, Maxims and Mottoes.
To be had at the Canning Library,
55 *College Street, Calcutta.*
Price 7 annas; Postage 1 anna.

VACCINATION.

Owing to the exceptional weather that we are now having the prevalence of small-pox which on the 1st of February was notified, as going to take place during March and April continues longer than was anticipated. If this weather should last the disease may be expected to extend its ravages into the cold season when it will rage as an epidemic.

To avert such a very serious calamity the strength of the Vaccine Establishmeut in the Northern Division of Calcutta has been much increased and a vigorous effort is being made to stamp out small-pox by vaccination. All educated men or those possessed of any influence, employers of labour and others interested are invited to assist in persuading all unprotected persons to be vaccinated.

In order to accomplish the end in view of discovering all unprotected persons room to room visitation will be necessary, and the hearty co-operation of the community is solicited to afford facilities for search.

As there is no danger of the disease suddenly assuming more alarming proportions than it has done during March and April, all panic on this account is to be deprecated, while with the object of providing against further great loss of life after next rains are over, the assistance of all classes of the residents of Calcutta is publicly invited. Extensive revaccination is for the present not encouraged, except in the immediate neighbourhood of cases of small-pox, while if such a measure as general revaccination should become necessary notice will be supplied to the Public in good time.

T. EDMONDSTON CHARLES, M. D.,
Supdt. General of Vaccination.
18*th May* 1878.

For Sale.

A LARGE Double Cylinder Newspaper Printing Machine, now on view at the Alipore Jail. For particulars apply to the Superintendent, Bengal Secretariat Press.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
HINDU MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, *Lower Chitpore Road, Fouzdaree Balakhana,*
C. K. SEN & CO'S

Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.*, 8 *Annas*
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & Co.'s
CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. In also restores the virile powers which have been lost ot account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & CO.'S
Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.*, 10 *As.*
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN & CO. 'S
Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINODLA SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

IMPORTERS OF
Steam Ploughs, Horse Ploughs &c. &c. &c.
STEAM CULTIVATING TACKLE WITH STEVEN'S PATENT PLOUGH & CULTIVATOR.
FOUR FURROWS, WITH

1 Dozen Extra Ploughshares,	2 Dozen Extra Shares R. S. 3
2 Extra Tines for Cultivator	1 „ „ „ R. S. 4
1 Dozen Extra Shares S. 2	1 „ „ „ R. S. 4
1 „ „ „ S. 3	2 Extra Screws with Collars for raising the main wheel.

Extra Draft Hooks, Bolts Keys, and Pinions, and 8 Extra Iron Coulters for heavy lands,

HOWARDS PATENT DOUBLE-BREAST OR RIDGING PLOUGHS.

These Ploughs are intended for moulding or forming ridges for turnips, mangolds, and potatoes. The breasts are fitted in a neat and simple manner they can be readily expended or contracted to any required width, and thus independently of each other. By simply removing the breasts, which can be done instantly, and attaching the hoes shown in the annexed engraving, these implements can be used as horse hoes ... ... Rs. 90

PLOUGHS FOR SMALL BULLOCKS OR PONIES.

Howards Patent Iron Dwarf Plough, with one wheel, Marked D' each ... ... Rs. 47-8

This Plough is intented to be worked by a small horse or bullock. It is adapted for light land, for stirring loose soil, and for any kind of shallow ploughing where the draught is easy.

The average weight of the above Plough is 1½ cwt.

Howard's Patent Turnearest Plough, with one wheel each ... ... Rs. 37-8

The above Plough is the most useful made for very hard rooty, or stony ground, being very strong and reversible.

Howard's Expanding Horse Hoe, each ... Rs. 70

This Implement is intended for one row of turnips potatoes, or beans or for three rows of wheat barley &c. The hoes are made to suit the different widths of the rows and are so arranged that the frame never projects beyond the outside hoes. The advantage of this arrangement is very great when hoeing highstanding crops.

It is fitted with an expanding harrow, which works behind the implement and brings the weeds to the surface.

The average weight of the above is 1½cwt.

Whitehead's Patent Horse Hoes each ... Rs. 55

Carson's Patent Expanding Horse Hoes, each „ 60

Ten per cent discount off the above prices for Cash

TRADE MARK

DR. GHOSE'S

Oxygenine.

The long sought Specific Antidote for the most fatal poison of Asiatic CHOLERA.

When properly administered Oxygenine seldom fails to rescue 95 out of 100 cholera cases. That it is an infallible remedy for cholera patients, having blood still, is a fact established by more than one thousand trials.

Price per bottle, in tin case... Rs. 2 8
„ dozen „ „ 25 0

Ask for a bottle with either English or Bengali pamphlet.

Sold, in Calcutta, by Messrs. Smith Stanistreet & Co.; Messrs. Bonnerji & Co., Mirzapore Medical Hall, 26, Amherst Street; and in all other principal Medical Halls at Calcutta, Bhowanipore, Barahonagore and Dacca.

DR. GHOSE'S 'WATER PURIFIER' is also sold by the above medicine vendors. Price per bottle, capable of purifying about 64 native jugs of foulest water, is Re. 1, and per dozen Rs. 10.

DR. S. L. MULLICK'S CURATIVE TINCTURE,
OR SPECIFIC FOR CHOLERA.
Specific in Cholera and other Spasmodic bowel complaints
Price 1 oz. bottle ... Re. 1-4 Cash
„ ½ oz. „ .. ... 0-12 Cash.
Postage and Packing charge 4 (four annas) for Mofussil on each bottle. To be had at People's Medical Hall No. 31, Rutton Sircar's Garden Street, Calcutta.

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Suppliers of the following now in stock:

Clark's World-famed Blood mixture.

Important Advice to all.—Cleanse the vitiated blood whenever you find its impurities bursting through the skin in pimples, eruptions, or sores; cleanse it when you find it obstructed or sluggish in the veins; cleanse it when it is foul, and your feelings will tell you when; keep the blood pure, and the health of the system will follow.

Skin Diseases, Eruptions, Blotches, Spots Pimples, Pustules, Boils, Carbuncles, Ring worms, Scald Heads, Sore Eyes, Erysipelas, Itch, Scurfs, Discolourations of the Skin, Humours and Diseases of the Skin of whatever name or nature, are literally carried out of the system in a short time by the use of this world-famed Medicine.

Price per bottle, Rs. 2: per dozen, Rs. 20 cash.

Savar's coca wine.

The Erythroxilon Coca, a shrub of South America, has been long celebrated for its strengthening powers, and its property of temporarily replacing food by arresting decay in the human tissues; its leaves have been always thus used by the Indians.

"Coca stimulates the nervous centres, giving a decided increase in the intellectual faculties; it stimulates resolution, courage, perseverance, facile speech, and capability for exertion. It is most useful, therefore, in those diseases characterised by depression of the nervous and muscular systems, as cholera."—DR. REIS, Paris, February 1876, Bull. Gen, de Therapeut.

"In the course of Weston's late walk of 500 miles in six days, which he almost succeeded in accomplishing, a very interesting fact has been elicited, which may possibly have more popular applications than any of the results which may be obtained from the physiological investigation which is still in progress. At intervals, as he persistently pursued his route, he was seen to go through the action of chewing, and a brown stain was observed upon his lips. The BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL refers to this fact, and states that it has been ascertained by Mr. Ashburton Thompson to be due to the use of Coca leaves, which, although yet little used in England, has long been known to be credited on good authority with extraordinary power of sustaining the body under severe fatigue."

Small bottles, Rs. 3 cash; Rs. 3-8 credit.

" " " 5 " " 6 "

Bunter's Nervine.

The instant cure for Tooth ache, destroys the sensitive nerve without pain, forms a temporary stopping, saves the Tooth, and prevents decay.

Price per box, Re. 1 cash; Re. 1 4 credit.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Acts of Parliament.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS.

Paid-up Capital—Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds.

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Important Reduction of the Rates for Life Assurance in India, China, Ceylon, &c.

EXAMPLES.

New Table of Rates for Civilians payable during the whole term of Life for an Assurance of Rs. 1,000 payable at death.

Comparative Statement of Rates of Different Offices.

YEARLY AT AGE 20.

	Rs.	As.	P.
The new rates of the N. B. & M. Insurance Co.	25	6	0
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The Standard	28	9	4
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General Agents for the whole of India in the Life Department.

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No More Pains!!!

THE

INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.

Warranted to cure pains of every description, arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.

Per bottle, Re. 1; packing and postage, As. 8.
Large size Rs. 2 packing and postage Re. 1.

DARLINGTON & Co.,
49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

☞ See that you get the INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER with the name of Darlington & Co. on it, without which none are genuine.

☞ Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy. Liberal terms to the trade.

The following is from an influential zemindar and the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON &Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah Street Calcutta.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave some to my servants: I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD BROWN.

The following is from the Rev. Mother of St Joseph's Convent, Bandora.

Dear Sirs,—We find the Infallible Pain-Curer effications, and are glad to know of it as being a useful medicine.

I remain, yours truly, SISTER THEODORINE,
Superioress F. de la Croix.

Gentlemen,—I herewith send you the value and shall feel obliged by your sending me by post another bottle (large size) of the Infallible Pain-Curer, I find that the medicine is doing me great deal of good.

CHINTAMAN SAKHARAM CHITIUS, Subordinate Judge.
Kaira, Guzrath.

Dear Sirs,—Your Infallible Pain-Curer which was sent to Baboo Rajkisore Chatterjee, Toondla, has done him good, and he writes me to send him another bottle as early as possible. Will you have the goodness to send up without delay another bottle (large size) of the same sort you forwarded last time to him.

Yours faithfully,
KISORY MOHUN CHATTERJEE, 4, Fairlie Place, Calcutta.

Gentlemen,—Lately I had taken from you a bottle of your famous "No More Pains" which has almost relieved me of all my pains, I beg to enclose a remittance in postage stamps, and hope you will be pleased to send me another bottle of the same medicine.

Yours faithfully,
RAJENDRO NATH CHATTERJEE, Hallisahar Khasbatty.
via Kanchraparah, Camp Rungown.

J. CORFIELD & Co.

CHEMISTS DENTISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

10 & 11 ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

Have the pleasure to announce fresh supplies of the following:

Bailey's Sulphine.

SULPHINE, by regulating the fermentation of the food in the digestive organs, is an immediate cure for flatulence and indigestion. It is a specific for chronic dyspepsia, and strikes at the root of all those evils which follow in its train—headache, heartburn, nausea, constipation, debility, &c. By this action it allows time for the food to become properly disolved by the gastric juice.

SULPHINE arrests the transmission of hereditary diseases—such as gout, scrofula, consumption, &c.,—by destroying the germs, or "seeds" as they are called, of these diseases which are transmitted from parents to children and from children again to their offspring from generation to generation.

SULPHINE, by thus annihilating the primary causes of disease, prevents the recurrence of attacks of ague, intermittent fever, and various secondary and induced affections.

½ pint Re. 1
1 " " 2

Eno's Fruit Salt.

A household remedy in the form of an agreeable, safe and invigorating Beverage for preventing and curing Biliousness, Sick Headache, Vomiting, Constipation, Thirst, Sea-sickness, Impure Blood, Skin Eruptions, and Liver Complaints,

Its occasional use is the best means of preventing Fevers.

Price, per bottle, Rs. 2 cash;

Erskine's Brahee Sugar Powders.

The great remedy for

Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia, Face ache, Toothache, Ear ache, Coughs and all Affections from Cold.

In packets, Re. 1 cash; Re. 1-4 credit.

Dr. Batchelours Nervo, Arterial Essence.

For Nervousness, debility, exhaustion and Nervous deafness, &c.

Price Rs. 2-8 cash; Rs. 3-8 credit

Espic's Cigarettes.

For Asthma and Diseases of the chest.

Price per box, Rs. 2 cash.

HAMILTON & CO.,

JEWELLERS AND SILVERSMITHS, CALCUTTA.

Beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to **Colleges and Schools.** to their large and varied stock of

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